Oxfordshire Guardian
DIDCOT EDITION

Inside this week
Money returned to conned students p2

What's on in OXFORDSHIRE
See the new section inside
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Thursday, April 3 - Wednesday, April 9, 2014
Advertising/Newsdesk: 01235 511700
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Where futures grow
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Course Code	Campus	Number of Hours	Start Date	End Date	Start Time	End Time	Day of Week	Fee	Concessionary Fee
CREATIVE									
SEWING BEES.									
PPWK109P	Witney	30	24/04/2014	03/07/2014	18.00	21.00	Thursday	£135.50	£5.00
INTRODUCTION TO PRINTMAKING AND ETCHING TECHNIQUES									
PPAK105P	Abingdon	30	21/07/2014	25/07/2014	9.00	15.00	Monday - Friday	£185.50	£20.00
INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY									
PSAH514P	Abingdon	10	02/06/2014	23/06/2014	18:30	21:00	Monday	£86.00	£5.00
INTRODUCTION TO PHOTOSHOP									
PSWH303P	Witney	10	29/04/2014	20/05/2014	18:30	21:00	Tuesday	£86.00	£5.00
PRACTICAL									
CAR MAINTENANCE									
FSAH103P	Abingdon	20	24/04/2014	03/07/2014	18:30	20:30	Thursday	£162.00	£0.00
CARPENTRY FOR BEGINNERS									
MPOK102P	Avenue One	20	24/04/2014	03/07/2014	18:30	20:30	Thursday	£162.00	£0.00
TEACHING									
AWARD IN EDUCATION & TRAINING (PREV PTLLS) - L3									
CPAK313P	Abingdon	32	29/04/2014	17/06/2014	09:30	14:30	Tuesday	£224.00	£15.00
AWARD IN EDUCATION & TRAINING (prev PTLLS) - L3									
CPWK101P	Witney	32	07/07/2014	18/07/2014	09:30	14:30	Monday - Friday	£224.00	£15.00
HAIR AND BEAUTY									
NVQ BEAUTY THER+B13:I18APY - L1 (ADULT)									
HPAJ104P	Abingdon	75	11/03/2014	08/07/2014	09:30	15:30	Tuesday	£386.00	£10.00
VTCT CERT INDIAN HEAD MASSAGE - L3									
HPAJ112P	Abingdon	606	06/06/2014	20/06/2014	09:30	16:30	Friday	£141.00	£2.00
HOT STONE MASSAGE THERAPY									
HSAG375P	Abingdon	10	02/05/2014	09/05/2014	09:30	15:00	Friday	£81.00	£0.00
THERMAL AURICULAR THERAPY - EAR CANDLES									
HSAG377P	Abingdon	6	27/06/2014	27/06/2014	09:30	16:00	Friday	£49.00	£0.00
MINX NAILS WORKSHOP									
HSAG378P	Abingdon	5	04/07/2014	04/07/2014	09:30	14:30	Friday	£60.00	£0.00
INTRO TO MASSAGE									
HSAH304P	Abingdon	10	29/04/2014	29/05/2014	18:00	20:30	Tuesday	£81.00	£0.00
MINX NAILS WORKSHOP									
HPWK104P	Witney	5	27/06/2014	27/06/2014	09:30	14:30	Friday	£40.50	£0.00
INTRODUCTION TO NAIL ART									
HPAK113P	Abingdon	4.5	10/07/2014	10/07/2014	9.30	14.30	Thursday	£39.45	£3.00
BARBERING WORKSHOP									
HPAK114P	Abingdon	12	16/07/2014	17/07/2014	09:30	16:00	Wednesday - Thursday	£100.20	£3.00
VTCT CERTIFICATE IN NAIL TECHNOLOGY LEVEL 2									
HPAK115P	Abingdon	72	24/04/2014	31/07/2014	09:30	15:30	Thursday	£343.20	£5.00
HEALTH AND CARE									
DEMENTIA SUPPORT WORKSHOP									
CPAK314P	Abingdon	6	28/05/2014	28/05/2014	09:30	14:30	Monday	£48.60	£0.00
L2 AWARD IN FOOD SAFETY IN CATERING									
CPAK315P	Abingdon	6	31/03/2014	31/03/2014	09:30	17:00	Monday	£58.60	£0.00
L2 AWARD IN FOOD SAFETY IN CATERING									
CPWK102P	Witney	6	19/05/2014	19/05/2014	09:30	17:00	Monday	£58.60	£0.00
BABYSITTING BASICS WORKSHOP									
CPAK312P	Abingdon	15	08/07/2014	10/07/2014	9.30	14.30	Tuesday - Thursday	£121.50	£0.00
L2 AWARD IN FOOD SAFETY IN CATERING									
CPAK316P	Abingdon	6	14/07/2014	14/07/2014	09:30	17:00	Monday	£58.60	£0.00
ANIMAL AND OUTDOOR									
INTRODUCTION TO FLORISTRY									
EPSK107P	Common Leys	9	06/05/2014	20/05/2014	18.30	21.30	Tuesday	£30.00	£0.00
INTRO TO DOG AGILITY AND TRAINING									
EPSK108P	Common Leys	6	02/06/2014	16/06/2014	19.00	21.00	Monday	£15.00	£0.00
WEEKEND ADULT SADDLE CLUB									
EPSK109P	Common Leys	9	10/05/2014	25/05/2014	13.00	16.00	Saturday and Sunday	£30.00	£0.00
DOG GROOMING TASTER									
EPSK110P	Common Leys	5	21/06/2014	21/06/2014	10.00	16.00	Saturday	£15.00	£0.00
GARDENING CLUB									
EPSK111P	Common Leys	6	21/06/2014	28/06/2014	13.00	16.00	Saturday	£15.00	£0.00
HORSE CARE - L2									
ESSK116P	Common Leys	24	06/05/2014	01/07/2014	18:30	21:30	Tuesday	£320.00	£20.00
INTRODUCTION TO RUNNING A SMALLHOLDING									
EPSK112P	Common Leys	12	28/06/2014	29/06/2014	10:00	16:00	Saturday and Sunday	£50.00	£0.00
ACCOUNTING & BOOKKEPING									
C&G AWARD BOOK-KEEPING L1 (Apr am)									
BPAG329P	Abingdon	30	24/04/2014	04/07/2014			Thursday	£168.00	£10.00
C&G AWARD BOOK-KEEPING L1 (Apr Tue Eve)									
BPAK372P	Abingdon	30	24/04/2014	04/07/2014	18.00	21.00	Tuesday	£168.00	£10.00
AAT AWARD IN ACCOUNTING L1									
BPAH103P	Abingdon	45	16/06/2014	28/06/2014	09:15	14:30	Monday	£233.00	£0.00
ESSENTIAL SKILLS									
PRE-GCSE ENGLISH									
GPWK101P	Witney	22.5	29/04/2014	01/07/2014				FREE	£0.00
PRE-GCSE MATHS									
GPAK104P	Abingdon	22.5	01/05/2014	03/07/2014				FREE	£0.00
INTRODUCTION TO ACCESS									
CPAH101P	Abingdon	15	30/06/2014	02/07/2014	9.30	14.30	Monday, Tuesday,Wednesday	FREE	£0.00
ESOL (English for Speakers of other languages)									
Abingdon or Witney Campus	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various Various	
MATHS AND ENGLISH									
Abingdon or Witney Campus	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	FREE	FREE

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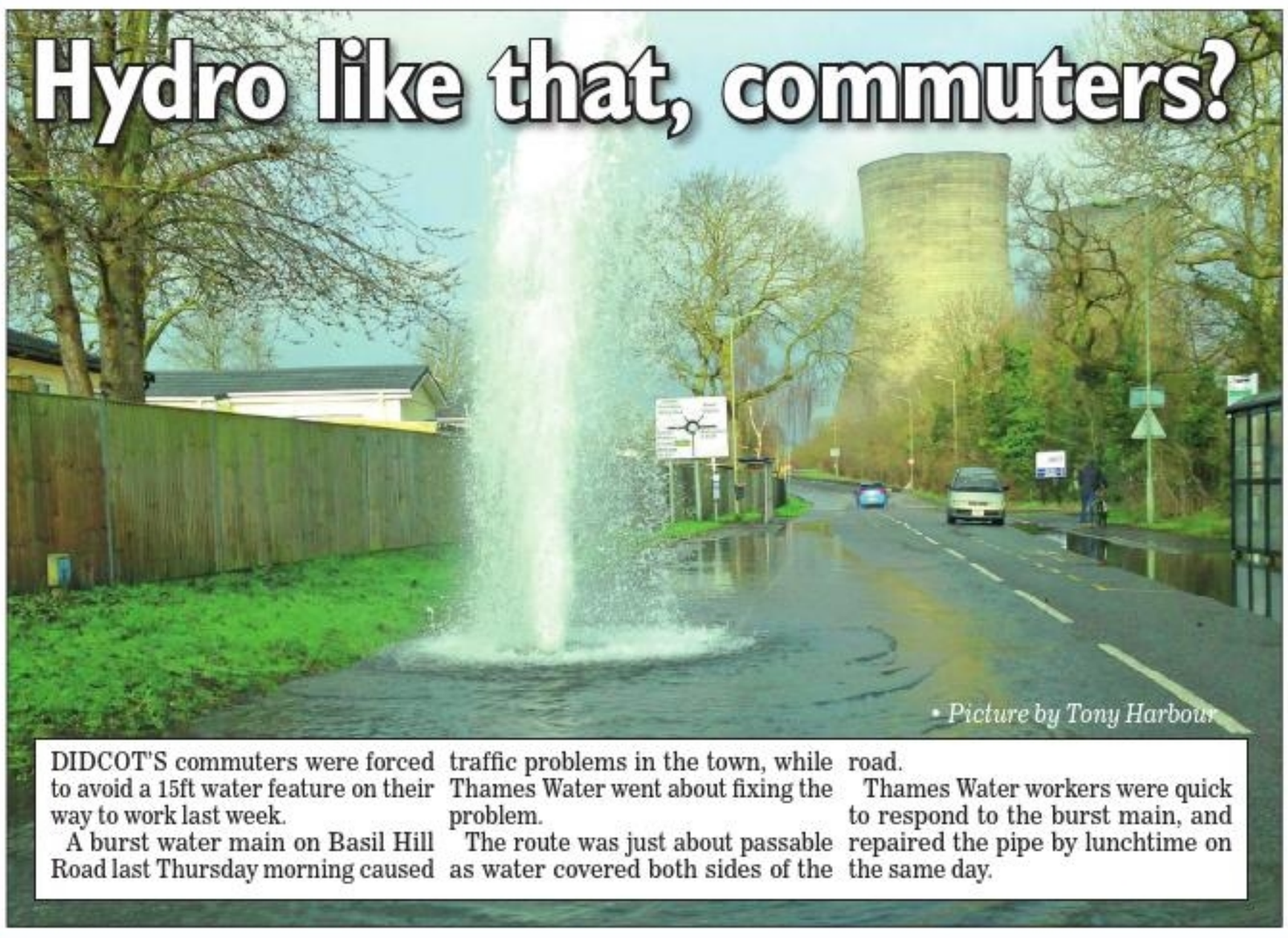
SODC 'not in a position' to make Aldi recommendation

NO DECISION YET ON STORE PLANS



• Picture by Tony Harbour

DIDCOT'S commuters were forced to avoid a 15ft water feature on their way to work last week.

A burst water main on Basil Hill Road last Thursday morning caused traffic problems in the town, while Thames Water went about fixing the problem.

The route was just about passable as water covered both sides of the road.

Thames Water workers were quick to respond to the burst main, and repaired the pipe by lunchtime on the same day.

SOUTH Oxfordshire District Council says it is still not in a position to give plans for an Aldi store in Didcot the go ahead.

The German firm submitted a planning application to build a store on Lower Broadway in November last year.

However, SODC says it wishes to seek "further information on retail impact assessment" and work with Aldi to "produce an enhanced design".

Natalie Ellis, communications officer at SODC, said: "Currently, we are considering both these elements.

"It is likely that a revised design will be submitted and this will be subject to re-consultation with the town council.

"The council are also discussing with the highway authority the impact on traffic and highway proposals.

"At present, the council is not in a position to make a recommendation on this scheme."

Aldi plan to demolish the existing buildings opposite the Jubilee Way roundabout to build a 1,600 sq.m food store.

However, the firm do not currently plan on providing new public roads within the site or altered vehicle access to or from the B4016.

By **Jack Johnson**
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Despite issuing its approval, Didcot Town Council raised concerns about the access to the site.

Council officials say drivers will have difficulty turning right in to, and out of the site, and have suggested a left turn only via the Jubilee Way roundabout and out via the A4130.

The town council has also suggested improvement to the roundabout, funded by the developer, to help resolve the problem.

Roebuck Court resident Peter Kent, echoed these concerns in his comments in the initial consultation.

"I'm dismayed that the application doesn't support or suggest any changes to traffic management on the roundabout," he said.

However, residents do welcome a new food store in the town.

George Walker, who lives on Tamwar Way, said: "It will bring much needed competition to the monopoly of Tesco and Sainsbury's and save me travelling to Oxford and Reading to get my shopping."

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Money returned to conned students

SEVEN clients of an Oxford letting agent who were each swindled out of hundreds of pounds have got their money back, following intervention from Oxfordshire County Council's Trading Standards team.

Zulfiqar Hussain admitted to seven counts of engaging in an unfair commercial practice in 2012, relating to the operation of Charles Lawson Lettings in Cowley Road.

He received a suspended nine-month prison sentence and was ordered to pay back the money he misappropriated.

Hussain had paid back small amounts to the seven people he duped, but had not settled until Trading Standards and other council colleagues made him reimburse them in full.

By Adam Flinn
adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

One of those tricked by Hussain was Alice Codner, who with her housemates has now been paid back more than £3,000 between them.

Ms Codner and her housemates had arranged to rent a house in East Avenue through Hussain in 2009, paying a deposit and a month's rent in advance, ahead of the start of term at Oxford University.

But one week before term began, they discovered that the property was not in Hussain's care, leaving them very little time to find alternative accommodation.

"We didn't have anywhere to live a week before term started when we found out what had happened and we were out of pocket – we couldn't believe it," said Ms Codner.

"It is hard enough to find student accommodation in Oxford and we were left with only a few days to find somewhere new.

"Trading Standards took up the case and Hussain was ordered to pay the money back, but time passed and we did not get back all of the money owed.

"It was with disbelief when I found out that the Trading Standards officers had managed to retrieve the money Hussain had misappropriated, and it was wonderful to suddenly have £800 each back."

Trading Standards manager Richard Webb said: "My staff and other council colleagues worked extremely hard to retrieve this money and, prior to that, bring Hussain to court.

"I hope this case acts as a strong warning to anybody thinking of doing a similar thing."

Historic rivalry set to resume in Boat Race

IT'S that time of year again when Oxford and Cambridge Universities vie for supremacy on the River Thames.

The 160th Boat Race, one of the oldest sporting events in the world, takes place this Sunday.

Oxford will be looking for back-to-back wins for the first time since 2009, after winning by a length and a third last year.

They trail Cambridge by four, who have lifted the trophy on 81 occasions.

Cambridge have the heavier boat, with an average weight of 92.3kg, while Oxford's crew is older, averaging 26-years-old.

Oxford's crew consists of (from bow to cox) Storm Uru, Tom Watson, Karl Hudspith, Thomas Swartz, Malcolm Howard, Michael Di Santo, Sam O'Connor, Constantine Louloudis and Laurence Harvey.

This year's race will start at 5.55pm.

Meanwhile, Oxford stormed to victory in the women's race at Henley last weekend.

•Oxford's crew celebrate winning last year's Boat Race

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Quality of living survey

OXFORD City Council is asking thousands of residents to complete a survey about the quality of living in their neighbourhoods.

Barton, Northway, The Leys, Cutteslowe, Wood Farm, Littlemore and Rose Hill residents will receive the Quality of Life Survey through their doors.

The survey has been created by the Oxford University Careers Service, Oxfordshire Healthwatch and the city council.

Results will be used to help show where improvements are needed and assist with planning priorities.

Cllr Steve Curran, board member for Youth and Communities, said: "The survey results will give officers the ability to track changes and improve the quality of life in the neighbourhoods of Oxford.

"It will also help in giving the residents a voice in what is important to them in their local area."

For more information and venues for residential meetings, contact the council's Neighbourhood Partnership Team on 01865 252828.

The survey is available online at www.surveymonkey.com/s/QualityofLife-Oxford.

Police ask for nominations

RESIDENTS in Oxfordshire are being asked to nominate officers and staff at Thames Valley Police who have had an impact on their local community for an annual award.

The Community Officer of the Year awards recognises staff who have made the greatest contribution to addressing the concerns of local residents over the past year.

Police officers, PCSOs, volunteers and special constables can be nominated for the award before May 15, ahead of the awards ceremony in July.

Assistant chief constable Richard Bennett said: "The Community Policing Awards is an opportunity to pay tribute to the important grassroots work that neighbourhood policing teams carry out in their communities.

"Neighbourhood policing is the bedrock of the service that we provide in protecting communities and preventing and detecting crime.

"Being involved in deciding who receives the awards is an aspect of my job that I particularly enjoy.

"Previous nominations show a range of innovative and effective initiatives carried out by neighbourhood teams to address the concerns of residents, and it is clear that these are greatly appreciated by the people we serve."

To nominate an officer, go to www.thamesvalley.police.uk/communityawards.

Historian's 'swansong' book of Didcot's past

AFTER 45 years of living in Didcot, a local historian, who has written seven books about the town, is moving on to pastures new.

Brian Lingham, 76, and his wife Barbara, 66, are leaving their Westwater Way home for the village of Glemsford, Surrey.

Mr Lingham became the librarian at Didcot Library in 1969, moving from his previous post as branch librarian at Harold Hill, Essex.

Despite taking an early retirement in 1992, Mr Lingham has continued to engross himself in the town's history and has become a reliable source of information on all things Didcot related.

"They know he has either got the knowledge and can come out with it, or he can lay his hands on it in a book a lot quicker than anyone else can," Mrs Lingham explained.

His books consist of 'A History of Didcot', which has four volumes, as well as 'The Changing Face of Didcot' with Joyce Hall, founding member of the town's Archaeological and Historical Society.

By Jack Johnson
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Mr Lingham's last book, 'Didcot Through Time', is set to be released in the next few weeks and is a compilation of photographs showing the town's growth.

"It's my swansong," he said.

"I came up here (Ladygrove estate) in the 1970's and it was all farm land.

"I took a whole load of photographs and now it is housing.

"The growth of this town is going to be enormous."

There is one moment in particular which the 76-year-old will be sad to miss.

"He is a little bit disappointed that he won't see, because we would have moved by then, the coming down of the cooling towers," explained Mrs Lingham.

• *Brian Lingham and his wife Barbara (Picture by Jack Johnson)*

Her husband agreed, adding: "I, like everybody else, always thought that when you came back from wherever you had been, you knew you were near home when you saw the power station.

"If I was here I would be sorry to see it go.

"But I'm looking forward to going down there (Glemsford).

"It's such a different place."

Hadden Hill discussions

A PUBLIC meeting will take place in just over a fortnight to discuss the possible purchase of land at Hadden Hill.

Didcot Town Council want to use the land for sport and recreational purposes.

The meeting will be held at the Civic Hall on April 22 at 7pm.

A consultation has already been carried out with 67 people in favour of the proposal and 77 against.

Recurring themes in the consultation were concerns about access to the site, while 38 of the responses identified that more sports facilities were needed.

All Didcot residents are welcome to attend the meeting.

Man arrested after bank staff threatened

A 21-YEAR-OLD man from Didcot is in custody after threatening staff at a bank on the Broadway with a knife earlier this week.

The offender pulled a knife from his clothing and threatened a member of staff at Santander on Monday morning.

He was arrested when police officers attended the scene at 10.35am.

As a result, Santander was closed to the public.

"We regret that due to an incident, this branch is temporarily closed," a notice on the window of the bank read on Monday.

News Bites

Street Fair's heroic theme

THE theme for this year's Didcot Christmas Street Fair will be 'Heroes', it has been announced.

Organisers say this relates to local people, sports stars, celebrities, or anything that you feel deserves a heroic status.

Meanwhile, if you fancy yourself as the next British baking star, you can already enter for this year's Christmas Bake Off.

Organised by Great British Bake Off contestant Christine Wallace, the competition will take place across November 15-16 at the Civic Hall.

As part of the event, a recipe book will be produced to help raise money for the street fair and the Balsam Project.

If you want to take part in this year's street fair, bake off or provide a recipe, contact Jeanette Howse via the committee's Facebook page.

Secret Santa wins award

TEENAGER Courtney Hughes has been presented with the town council's John Eldridge award for voluntary service.

Courtney organised her second Charity Secret Santa at the end of last year, collecting over 650 gifts.

The presents were distributed to the special care baby unit at the John Radcliffe Hospital, the Life Charity House, Didcot, and Helen and Douglas House.

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Council gives shopping centre the green light

CHERWELL District Council has given the go ahead to revised plans for the Banbury Gateway shopping development, following a special planning meeting last Thursday.

The development will see a retail park built to the north of the town on the former site of engineering company Prodrive, with plans for 14 shops and two restaurants.

It had already been granted planning permission from the council in December 2012, with amendments approved in May and October last year.

And last week's meeting approved further changes to the plans.

This includes amalgamating three shop units into one to accommodate a new branch of Primark.

It will also help to reduce the number of A3 use units, currently intended for food establishments, from three to two under a canopy.

Minor revisions were also made in the ground floor footprint of units nine and 10, as well as redistributing floorspace to create a new unit and reducing car parking from 623 to 591 spaces.

By **Adam Flinn**
adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Cherwell's lead member for planning, Cllr Michael Gibbard, said: "Banbury Gateway is set to benefit the town as a whole.

"We recognised this with the original application and have now confirmed it again by agreeing this revised proposal.

"With the addition of another flagship store to the development and no change in the scheme's footprint, Banbury Gateway will create hundreds of new employment opportunities for residents."

In a separate move last Thursday, the Court of Appeal in London rejected a bid against the development by Scottish Widows PLC and Aegon UK Property, owners of Castle Quay and Banbury Cross Retail Park respectively.

They had claimed that the planning permission for Banbury Gateway was legally flawed, but this was turned down by the court.

Full details of the latest application can be found on the council's website: www.cherwell.gov.uk.

MP celebrates 15 years of minimum wage

OXFORD East MP Andrew Smith has marked the 15th anniversary of the establishment of the National Minimum Wage.

A major policy of Tony Blair's premiership, the National Minimum Wage is said to have helped in boosting living standards.

Mr Smith was joined by Anneliese Dodds, Labour candidate for South East MP, and Sally Copley, Labour parliamentary candidate for Oxford West & Abingdon, to celebrate the occasion.

He said: "Here in Oxford, the city council already pay their workers a living wage.

"I support the efforts of campaign groups, such as the Oxford Living Wage Campaign, who are working closely with major employers to get them to pay their staff a fairer wage."

A review is currently underway for the how the National Minimum Wage can be strengthened, including the extension of the Low Pay Commission's powers.

Investigation after ducks found shot

THREE ducks and a moorhen have been found dead on a pond in Bicester, with vets who examined the bodies concluding that they had been shot.

The RSPCA was called on March 22 after concerned passers-by noticed the floating bodies of the animals in Jubilee Lakes, near Avocet Way.

Four birds were found and taken to a nearby vet, who confirmed they had been shot but didn't know what type of gun had been used.

RSPCA inspector Andy Eddy said: "It seems these poor animals were the victims of a deliberate attack – some kind of callous target practice. I found four bodies but it seems likely that there were more. It was a really horrible and utterly unnecessary act of cruelty."

Bicester town councillor Dan Sames added: "I can't believe that people would be so cruel as to take pot shots at a living animal like this.

"I know lots of families with children go to this spot to feed the ducks, and it is absolutely horrific that they instead find their dead bodies floating in the water."

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Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service Oxfordshire from their local depots and Josh is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truthis that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

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News Bites

Rights of way

A COUNTY Council consultation on public rights of way, relating to over 1,700 miles of footpath and 650 miles of bridleway, is due to end in two week's time.

The council's draft Rights of Way Management Plan shows how the council aims to manage access to the countryside over the next 10 years.

Burford fire

FIRE crews managed to prevent a major fire at a Burford laundrette spreading to adjacent buildings, after they were called out last Tuesday evening.

The fire at Burford Laundry, on Witney Street, was quickly put out. Nobody was inside at the time. Station manager Julian Green praised the crews for their swift efforts.

Dog attack

A 32-YEAR-OLD woman has been left bruised after she was attacked by a dog in the country park on Kilkenny Lane, Carterton, on March 22.

The victim was running in the park when a black mongrel dog ran towards her and bit her left side at around 10.30am.

A lady in her fifties was walking the dog at the time. Call 101 with information.

Faster trains expected in rail improvements

RAIL passengers in Oxford and the south west are set to benefit from more than £7billion of investment, as part of a five-year plan to improve services in the region.

Trains from London Marylebone will link to Oxford as part of a scheme to improve capacity between Didcot North Junction and Aynho Junction.

The Great Western Main Line (GWML) from London Paddington to Oxford, Bristol and Newbury will also be electrified by 2016-17.

This will allow for the introduction of Super Express Trains on the route, which have 20 per cent more seats and will lead to reductions in journey times of up to 22 minutes.

And a rail link between Heathrow and the GWML will give passengers from Oxford access to the airport by rail.

Patrick Hallgate, route managing director for Network Rail Western, said: "Britain's railways are a vital part of our national infrastructure.

"They connect homes and workplaces, businesses with markets, they create jobs, stimulate trade and support the growth of a balanced economy.

By **Adam Flinn**
adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

"Passenger numbers in recent years have grown far beyond even our own industry's predictions, so it's vital that this investment over the next five years helps meet the continuing increase in demand for rail travel.

"Bigger, better stations, more tracks and longer platforms, electric powered trains, reopened railway lines and fewer level crossings all will help deliver more frequent, comfortable and reliable journeys."

In addition to the capital expenditure projects, £400million will be invested in replacing 625 miles of track, and a further £200million on upgrading structures on the route.

Network Rail is also publishing its first ever Western route climate change adaptation strategy, to protect against extreme weather at vulnerable sites.

A new high density service between Reading, Maidenhead and Heathrow will also run from December 2019 to reduce crowding on the eastern stretch of the Western route by 30 per cent.

Laser gun idea wins award for Oxon school

A WEST Oxfordshire school has been announced as the winner of 'The School We'd Like' competition, giving students and teachers the chance to improve their school community.

Chipping Norton School was chosen from over 300 entries in the secondary schools category, and have won £5,000 to put their plans into action.

Their idea was to build a laser gun obstacle course to teach maths, with a shed in the grounds transformed into a maze that students would need to navigate through.

To complete the course they must unlock a series of gates by solving a sum and firing the laser at the correct answer, as well as helping students think under pressure.

Steven Mavromichalis, from the school, said: "The students are well deserved in their victory.

"They dedicated a lot of time and effort in developing the idea, and everyone at the school is extremely pleased to hear that they will soon be proud custodians of a maths classroom like no other."

Local MP David Cameron added: "The children and teachers' proposal for a laser tag game to encourage mathematics is really inspired and it's great to hear it will now become a reality.

"I know it will have a real impact on the school community and look forward to seeing it in action soon."

• *Steven Mavromichalis and students from Chipping Norton School*

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West Oxon's sportiest talents are honoured

SPORTING stars from across West Oxfordshire have been honoured at an annual awards ceremony, which took place at Witney Lakes Resort on Monday.

The West Oxfordshire Sports Awards 2014 saw 28 sportspeople recognised for their skill and prowess, as well as the wealth of emerging talent in the district.

It was organised by West Oxfordshire District Council and the GLL Sport Foundation, with up to £1,000 of funding being awarded to each winner.

The winners will also receive free training membership at council-owned leisure facilities in West Oxfordshire.

By Adam Flinn
adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Cllr Richard Langridge, cabinet member responsible for leisure, said: "It is an absolute privilege to honour the passion, dedication and commitment of these local sportspeople, who set an outstanding example for us all. They are flying the flag for West Oxfordshire locally, nationally, and in some cases, worldwide.

"Our council is very proud to support them as they develop their careers and achieve their goals."

Charlotte Bacon, 16, was the sole winner of the World Class Talent award for her achievements in equestrian eventing, after she helped her team to win bronze at the 2013 Junior European Eventing Championships.

The teenager, from Shipton-under-Wychwood, said: "It's really generous of the council and GLL to give me an award like this, and it will definitely go towards my training and development.

"I'm very grateful, and I am aiming high and want to make it to the big stage – I hope to get to the Olympics."

Peter Bundey, chair of the GLL Sport Foundation added: "These are super talented people trying to get themselves up the rankings and we are extremely pleased to support them.

"We give these awards to help them explore their dreams. They are inspirational people, many of them young, and we want them to go as far as they can.

"All of the awardees should feel very proud of themselves."

• *The winners of the West Oxfordshire Sports Awards 2014, which took place on Monday*

MP's Corner

Ed Vaizey

MP for Wantage and Didcot

Homes debate 'contentious'

THE need for new homes is a very contentious issue across Oxfordshire, at least as much in my Wantage and Didcot Constituency as anywhere else. There are many local people who do need new homes, but many also have concerns about the process of planning where those homes should be and what the right numbers are.

Over recent months, I have been involved in many local campaigns about additional housing across my constituency, and have made specific objections both to Planning Committees and Planning Inspectors about a number of planning applications which clearly were not in the interests of local communities. Through that engagement, and other events such as the public meeting I arranged so that constituents could put their points of view and questions about planning directly to the Planning Minister, Nick Boles, I am very aware of the huge anxiety that is caused both to individuals and communities through inappropriate plans for housing.

It is in that context that I have considered the plans put forward by the Vale of White Horse District Council for more than 7,000 additional homes across the area, with developments imposed on almost every community of any size. While we do undoubtedly need more homes, we do need to be sure that the way in which housing numbers are calculated is appropriate. It is also clear to me that plans for infrastructure, such as roads, sewerage and schools need to be properly developed before any actual building goes ahead.

News Bites

Police appeal

AN ELDERLY bed-ridden woman was left traumatised after offenders broke into her Kidlington home last Friday, police have said. Between 10.30am and 4.30pm, the offenders broke into the house in The Moors and, after an untidy search, entered one of the bedrooms where they disturbed the woman.

They left empty-handed, and the woman was not harmed. Anyone with information should call 101.

Lorry thefts

THIEVES have sawn through a wooden fence and stolen from lorries, which were parked in a compound in Bicester, last month.

A total of 13 wheels and tyres were taken from three rigid lorries between 7pm on March 21 and 1.10am on March 24 at the compound in The Garth, Launton Road.

Intruder

POLICE are appealing for witnesses after a burglary in Bicester.

The burglar was disturbed when seeing the kitchen light turned on. Nothing was taken.

It took place last Saturday at around 10.40pm on Bucknell Road. Call 101 with information.

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'A lower carbon NHS'

• *David Cameron MP and Professor Dame Sue Bailey planting the tree at Warneford Hospital*

PRIME Minister David Cameron MP marked NHS sustainability day by planting a tree at an Oxford hospital last Thursday, to celebrate the efforts of NHS Trusts and healthcare organisations to reduce carbon emissions.

Trees have been donated by NHS Forest, a project run by the Centre for Sustainable Healthcare, with them being planted at Oxford Health NHS Foundation sites in the coming years.

It has also been recognised that green spaces play a part in helping reduce mental health symptoms, leading to relaxation and decreased agitation and aggression among patients.

Mr Cameron jointly planted the tree with the president of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, Professor Dame Sue Bailey.

The Prime Minister said: "NHS Trusts, such as Oxford Health NHS Foundation, can play an important role in contributing to reducing the country's carbon footprint.

"Some of the initiatives I have been very interested to hear about include the tree-planting programme and also a project that helps people affected by mental health issues reap real benefits from the natural environment.

"I congratulate the trust and its partners for this excellent work that contributes to a lower carbon NHS."

Professor Bailey added: "Most people know now that physical activity can be an effective supplement to treatment in mild and moderate depression and anxiety disorders.

"But direct contact with nature

By Adam Flinn
adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

also leads to a greater sense of connectedness with the community.

"Sustainable healthcare will also need to feature prominently in any future mental health service so I fully support Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust's commitment to using this meadow as a recovery space for patients."

Oxford NHS Foundation Trust chief executive Stuart Bell said: "We are delighted that the Prime Minister could join us today to celebrate this initiative to plant trees donated by NHS Forest.

"We are also fortunate to have a large green space, the Warneford Meadow, and look forward to working with partners to use this area for the benefit of our patients."

MP's Corner

John Howell
MP for Henley

Government's long-term plan

THE recent Budget is part of our long-term economic plan to give economic security to the families of Britain. The single biggest risk would be to abandon the plan and listen to Labour's calls to borrow more, spend more and put up taxes. That would put families' economic security at risk. That is why I want to comment on two points: the help we have given to savers, and the reform of the pension system.

Support for savers was at the centre of the Budget. It started by making ISAs simpler by merging the cash and stocks ISAs into a single New ISA. The annual limit will increase to £15,000 a year Coupled with this was the ending of the 10p rate of tax on savings income. The 10p starting rate on savings income will become a zero-pence rate. Around 1.5million low income savers will benefit. Finally, a new pensioner bond will be introduced in January 2015 to offer a better return than any equivalent in the market today.

Our work on pension reform was fundamental. From April 2015 we will legislate to remove all remaining tax restrictions on how to access direct contribution pension pots: No one will have to buy an annuity if they don't want to. Those who still want the certainty of an annuity, as many will, will be able to shop around for the best deal. But what you take above the tax-free lump sum will be taxed at normal marginal tax rates – not 55% as at the moment. These reforms show we trust people to make decisions for themselves about their own money. They are to be welcomed as a major contribution to the changes to pensions which have been introduced.

Double knife attack

A 12-YEAR-OLD boy has been threatened with two knives and robbed of his iPhone and a small sum of money in Oxford, police have said.

It took place on March 19 at around 7.45pm on Meadow Lane, when the boy was approached from behind by four Asian males, aged between 15 and 17.

One boy, aged 17, was arrested on the same day on suspicion of robbery and bailed to return to Abingdon police station on April 22.

During the incident, the four suspects grabbed the victim by the mouth, preventing him from breathing, and threatened him with two knives.

After the robbery, the victim made his way to Chester Street, where he sought help, and was taken to the John Radcliffe Hospital for treatment to a head injury. He has since returned home.

Police believe one of the males was 5ft 6ins tall, wearing gloves and a red or brown-coloured item across his face.

There is no description available of the other offenders. Call 101.

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News Bites

Man charged

A 21-YEAR-OLD man has been charged with perverting the course of justice in relation to the Connor Tremble murder investigation.

Connor, 17, died on February 15 after he was stabbed in his Oxford flat.

The man has been released on bail to appear at Oxford Magistrates' Court on April 14.

Assault arrest

THAMES Valley Police has arrested an 18-year-old man in connection with a sexual assault at an Oxford nightclub.

The incident occurred at around 2am on March 22 at the Plush Lounge, Park End Street. He was bailed to appear back at St Aldates police station on Tuesday.

Home care

PEOPLE who receive home care have had their feedback incorporated into a county council standards document.

A draft set of standards were drawn up and sent to 1,600 home care users.

Results showed that 95 per cent of people felt the standards were correct.

The Homecare Standards for Home Support Services document will now be implemented.

Lights go out on city's Christmas parade

A POPULAR Christmas parade due to take place in Oxford later this year has been cancelled.

The Children's Lantern Parade was set to be part of Oxford City Council's three-day Christmas Light Festival, taking place from November 21 to 23.

But a decision was made not to enforce any road closures for this year's festival after complaints were made about disruption at last year's event, leading to the cancellation of the parade on St Giles.

Cllr Bob Price, leader of the city council, said: "The road closure and security measures required for the enormous numbers of people who crowd into restricted road space for the parade are very expensive.

"It required a massive investment in raising sponsorship income, as well as letting out the market stalls.

"The council does not have the capacity to do that again and budget restrictions do not allow us to fund the event from council tax income.

"In addition, the disruption caused for the bus services and people seeking to access the city centre with a long period of closure for St Giles has led to objections from the bus companies and some colleges."

By **Adam Flinn**
adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

But Cllr Craig Simmons, leader of the Greens, has criticised the move, and is supporting a residents' petition against the cancellation.

He said: "The parade is an extremely popular event, especially amongst children who make these lanterns at school, so we very much want the council to reverse the decision.

"We will be asking questions of the council [at a meeting] on April 14 about why it's been cancelled, as we don't believe it's a cost issue.

"We think it's because of the objections and we're asking why the council is not standing up for the parade or finding an alternate location.

"And if they are cancelling, we want to know what other event they are doing that involves children instead."

Last year's festival saw 100,000 people attend the three-day event, with a reported economic impact of £1.8million over the weekend.

Rugby stars to feature on Oxford's buses

LONDON Welsh players will be following your every move over the next few months, as they will emblazon buses across the county.

Club captain Matt Corker, team captain Tom May, and Sonny Parker will adorn over 30 Stagecoach buses covering routes including Abingdon, Blackbird Leys, Didcot, Jericho and Wantage.

The campaign is all part of a push to attract bumper crowds as the Exiles push for a return to the Aviva Premiership.

"We love playing at the Kassam and moving to Oxford has been fantastic for us," said Matt, who has made just under 200 appearances for the Exiles.

"I can speak for the whole squad that we love playing at the Kassam, being in Oxford is great for us as a team."

The 31-year-old added: "We are really putting the roots down here and it is where our focus is.

"The response we are getting from people is that they are very happy to have us.

"There is a real interest, especially when we were in the Premiership.

"We really hope everyone who has been to see us already will come down, and bring friends, and fill it out because it is a fantastic atmosphere at the Kassam when we get a good crowd."

• *Matt Corker and Sonny Parker alongside one of the buses (Picture by Jack Johnson)*

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Drug busts 'send out a clear message' - police

THAMES Valley Police has sent out a clear message to people involved with drugs after multiple arrests in the city last week.

Two men and a woman were arrested after patrols and searches in the Barton and Risinghurst area of Oxford on March 20.

All three have been bailed until June 6, pending further investigation.

Officers arrested the two men, aged 28 and 32, on suspicion of possession of a controlled substance with intent to supply, after targeted patrols in Collinwood Road.

A cannabis factory was also discovered after officers searched a property in Barton and Risinghurst.

Suspected class A drugs and a rucksack containing a white crystalline substance were found at the house.

As a result, a 32-year-old woman was arrested on suspicion of possession of a controlled substance with intent to supply and cultivation of cannabis.

By **Jack Johnson**
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Neighbourhood Sgt Martyn Williams hopes the arrests send out a clear warning.

"I hope this sends out the message to the community that we will act on information we receive to continue to catch those involved in drug dealing and drug use both on the street and at home," he said.

"I hope that the result shows the community that if you deal drugs or take drugs in Oxford then we will catch you.

"Drugs will not be tolerated in the area."

Cllr Dee Sinclair, ward member for Quarry and Risinghurst, added: "I am delighted the police have acted promptly and arrested suspects.

"It gives reassurance to residents and businesses in the area that by working together we can keep the community of Risinghurst safe."

If you have any information about drug-related activity in the area, contact police on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

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Robber behind bars after bus stop attack

A MAN has been jailed for four years after robbing two women in Headington who were waiting for a coach.

Aaron Johnson, 25, of Mathern Road, Chepstow, was found guilty at Oxford Crown Court on March 21.

Johnson robbed two women, aged 26 and 29, while they were waiting at a bus stop on London Road last year, ready to catch a coach to the airport.

The 25-year-old and an unknown man approached the women, punching one of them in the face and assaulting the other as she tried to help her friend. An iPad and handbags were stolen while the victims sustained bruising to their legs and face.

PC Rachel Linzey, said: "It has taken a year to bring the offender to justice and this sentencing shows that violent crime will not be tolerated.

"In terms of the prison sentence, justice has been served and the victims can now move with their lives.

"It has been a lengthy investigation and I am extremely pleased with the result."

• *Aaron Johnson (Picture courtesy of Thames Valley Police)*

Cops hailed for domestic abuse effort

A REPORT by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) has praised Thames Valley Police's work in tackling domestic abuse.

The force was singled out in the report for its training of officers and staff on risk assessment, honour based violence, stalking, harassment and coercive control.

Between August 2012 and 2013, 33 per cent of all recorded assaults with injury were domestic abuse related. Assistant chief constable John Campbell said: "We welcome the positive HMIC feedback and are pleased that the report acknowledges tackling domestic abuse is a priority for our force. Also, that our staff has a good understanding of what needs to be done to provide a good service to victims."

However, he recognises that further improvements need to be made.

"We acknowledge the areas for improvement and are already in the process of addressing the recommendations in the report," ACC Campbell added.

"In particular, that high rate of domestic abuse arrests by TVP needs improvement to convert to successful prosecutions resulting in convictions."

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News Bites

Duo charged

TWO men from Oxford have been charged in connection with supplying drugs.

A 32-year-old was charged with counts of conspiring to supply heroin and cocaine.

The other man, aged 33, has been charged with one count of possession with intent to supply cocaine.

Their arrests followed warrants in Oxford and Abingdon as part of Operation Strix.

Ambassadors

SIX volunteers have been appointed as community ambassadors to support charities and groups across the county.

Oxfordshire Community and Voluntary Action (OCVA) will have ambassadors operating in Abingdon, Henley, Thame, Wallingford, Wantage and Grove.

The 'fatberg'

THAMES Water workers are preparing to deal with a 'fatberg' over Easter, which has developed in the sewer underneath Hollybush Row in Oxford. The 'fatberg' is a congealed mass of fat, wet wipes and other litter that has wrongly been put down drains and toilets, causing the sewer to collapse.

Work will begin on Monday for about two weeks.

Marathon effort from Jonathan

By **Adam Flinn**
adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

AN OXFORD University student is hoping to raise £2,000 for the Children's Liver Disease Foundation (CLDF), as he takes part in the London Marathon next weekend.

Jonathan Davidson, 21, from Cheadle Hulme, will be taking a break from studying for his upcoming final exams to run the marathon, for a charity that is very close to his heart.

"My brother Edward was born with the rare liver disease alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency, and in 2012 was given a life-saving liver transplant," said Jonathan.

"Thankfully he is now living a healthy life but I know all about the impact which childhood liver disease has on a family, and also appreciate the value of the support which CLDF provides.

"I did a half marathon for CLDF two years ago but felt that the time was right for a greater challenge. Training is going well – the greatest challenge really is balancing a rigorous training regime with my academic commitments!"

• *Jonathan Davidson (right) will be running the London Marathon in support of CLDF and his brother Edward (left)*

Jonathan has almost reached his £2,000 target, and the money will be used by CLDF to continue their support for young liver disease patients and their families.

It will also fund research into childhood liver disease for which there is still no cure.

Alison Taylor, chief executive of CLDF, said: "Supporting families affected by childhood liver disease is a key part of our work, and we're so glad this has inspired Jonathan to do this for us. We are the only UK charity dedicated to fighting all childhood liver diseases and in order to do this, we rely on community fundraising for the majority of our income.

"We're delighted and very grateful that Jonathan has chosen to add to his workload by doing this for us and hope he thoroughly enjoys his first marathon experience."

Appeal after thefts in the city centre

POLICE are appealing for witnesses of thefts in the city centre last month, which so far has seen the arrests of a 16-year-old boy and 18-year-old man from Birmingham.

It comes as part of Operation Big Dipper, which is targeting pick pocketing in Oxford, and relates to incidents of theft on March 20 between 3pm and 7pm.

Officers are keen to trace a woman who was in Starbucks on Cornmarket Street at around 6pm, who is shown on CCTV as having her phone stolen before running after the thieves and getting it back.

An iPhone 5 was also recovered from a suspect, believed to be stolen in a pub somewhere in the city, and police are keen for the owner to come forward.

The two people from Birmingham were arrested on suspicion of thefts in Oxford and Leamington Spa, and have been bailed until April 25.

Anyone with information relating to the thefts is asked to contact PC Matthew Leney at St Aldates police station on 101.

Alternatively, contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

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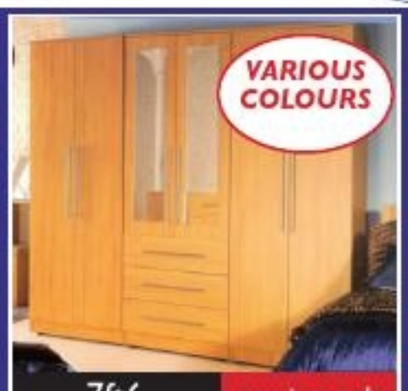

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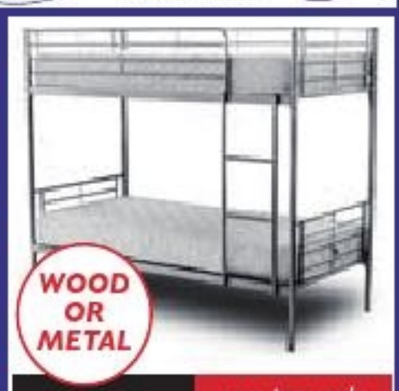

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• *Jason Donovan (centre) stars in Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*

Queen Jason in town!

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Tuxedo Jazz

THE smartly dressed Tuxedo Jazz Orchestra comes to Didcot's Cornerstone on Saturday, performing the music of the best British and American dance bands from the 1920s and '30s.

Led by vocalist Tony Jacobs, the show is packed with recreated tunes from names such as Bing Crosby and Duke Ellington, as well as background information about the music.

Three for Joy

CARNIVAL Band violinist Giles Lewin and clog dancer Hannah James join singer Maddy Prior tomorrow night, for a performance at Witney's Langdale Hall.

Maddy recently released her latest album '3 For Joy', and is performing the music of Britain and Eastern Europe in this tour with Giles and Hannah.

For tickets, call 01865 241717.

Flood dilemma

CHILDREN'S theatre production The Sorcerer's Apprentice comes to the Burton Taylor Studio on Saturday, for three shows during the day.

It follows the story of a young boy who inadvertently causes a flood, and has to try to undo the spell before the sorcerer returns. shows at 11am, 2pm and 4pm.

Not a drag for Jason!

AUSTRALIAN actor and singer Jason Donovan comes to Oxford's New Theatre this evening, as he stars in the award-winning musical Priscilla Queen of the Desert.

The West End hit show began its national tour early last year, and is in Oxford until Saturday after starting its run at the New Theatre earlier this week.

It follows the story of Tick, a drag queen who goes by the name Mitzi Mitosis, who is about to meet his eight-year-old son Benji in distant Alice Springs for the first time.

By **Adam Flinn**
adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

To make the journey, he and some friends buy a campervan, which they nickname Priscilla, and travel across Australia with plenty of entertainment along the way.

"It's been very successful," said Jason, who will play the role of Tick from tonight. "I hope that people enjoy it as much as we have enjoyed touring it. It's a very modern musical about the story of a bunch of misfits, and it's really worth checking out."

Jason returns to playing Tick after first performing the role during its West End run from 2009 to 2011.

He said: "I think this show is different from the West End show because it tends to centre more around my character than it did in London."

"There's nothing different about Tick though, I just try and bring that human side to the character, give him honesty and make him vulnerable, all those things."

And as expected with any musical, there are a wide selection of songs in the production, including 'Go West', 'I Will Survive' and 'Always on my Mind'.

"There's some great songs in it," Jason added. "Shows like this for an act like myself don't come along very often, so you tend to stick with them while you can.

"And I've got three children who cost me a fortune, so I've got to work!"

For a full list of show times and ticket prices, go to www.newtheatreoxford.co.uk or call the box office on 0844 871 3020.

Henley stages the Full Monty

AN AMERICANISED musical stage version of the classic British film The Full Monty is staged at Henley's Kenton Theatre from Wednesday.

Six unemployed Buffalo steelworkers decide to present a strip act at a local club, and the group have to overcome their inner demons and find strength in their camaraderie.

For more information about show times and ticket prices, go to www.kentontheatre.co.uk or call the box office on 01491 575698.

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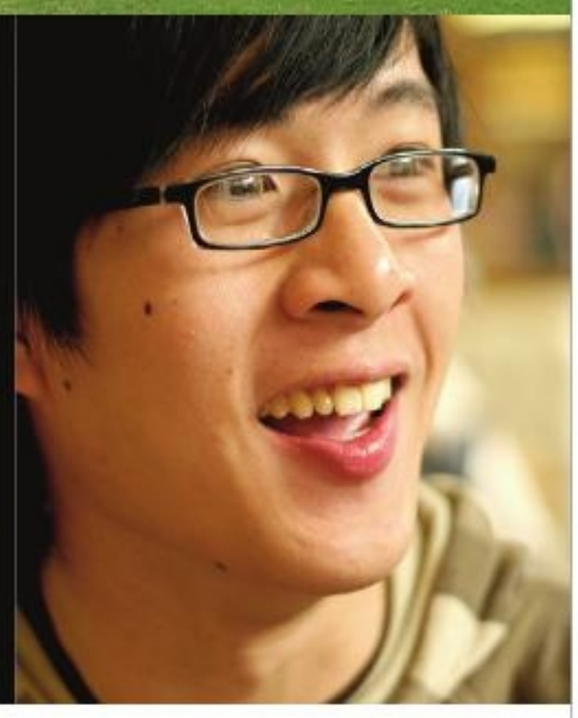

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The Dark Side

PINK Floyd tribute act Dark Side Of The Wall comes to Banbury's Mill Arts Centre on Saturday, with two hours of music dedicated to the iconic group.

Dark Side Of The Wall are now in their 19th year, and Saturday's show will include plenty of classic Pink Floyd tracks for fans to enjoy.

It starts at 8pm.

Instrumental

BRISTOL-BASED instrumental group Spiro arrive in Oxford on Saturday evening, featuring the music of Jane Harbour, Alex Vann, Jason Sparkes and Jon Hunt.

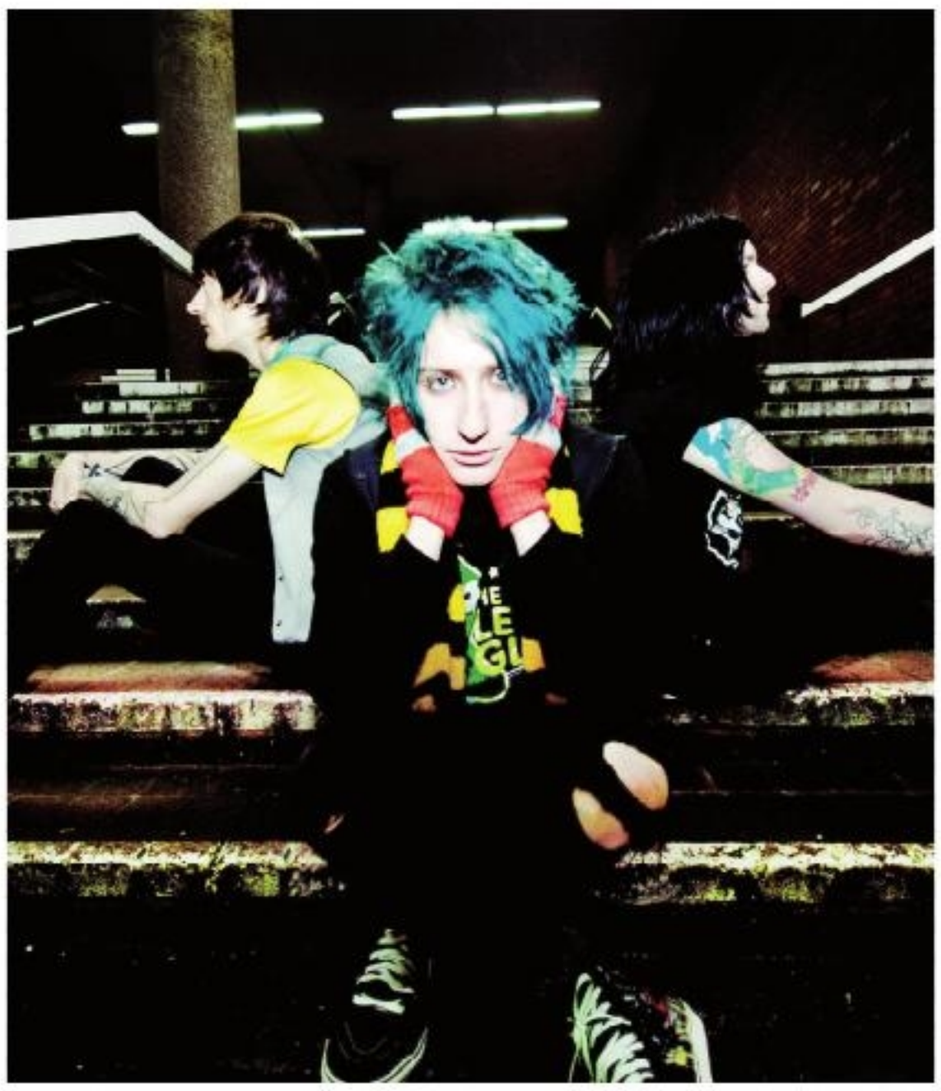
They have been performing since 1993 and have released four albums during that time, including their most recent release 'Kaleidophonica' in 2012. The show starts at 8pm. Go to www.thenorthwall.com for more details.

Street dance

A STREET dance workshop for eight to 12-year-olds runs at the Chipping Norton Theatre on Monday and Tuesday, to teach youngsters about choreography.

Children will also be devising some of their own steps as they work towards an exciting original performance.

Another level for trio



DERBY three-piece rock band LostAlone come to Oxford's O2 Academy tomorrow night, ahead of the release of their new album 'Shape Of Screams' next week.

By **Adam Flinn**
adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Comprised of lead singer Steven Battelle, bass guitarist Alan Williamson and drummer Mark Gibson, LostAlone are currently touring the UK to promote the upcoming album.

Brand new single 'Scarlet Letter Rhymes' is also being released this month, and the band will be performing songs new and old at tomorrow's show.

"I think the most striking thing about the new album is that people always like the vocal harmonies that we do, and on this record we've taken it to a level that hasn't been heard in recent times," said Steven. "That's the biggest difference. People always mention the vocal harmonies on the previous records, so I think if they thought that was a lot, wait until they hear this!"

In recent months, LostAlone have toured alongside big names including The Darkness, Paramore and My Chemical Romance, which Steven said has helped build up the band's profile.

He added: "They're all bands we toured with because they liked our music. It was great and I've got nothing but positive things to say about them.

"You realise why those bands have done so well because they're so committed to the music, and I'd say that you find people with the most success are the nicest. You can play with a band in a tiny venue who maybe think a bit too much of themselves, but when you support a band at Wembley Arena, they're the most humble people."

Doors open at 6.30pm for tomorrow's show. For more details, go to www.o2academyoxford.co.uk.

Guys and Dolls

ONE of the most popular musicals of all time, Guys and Dolls, is staged at the Oxford Playhouse for five performances starting from Wednesday.

The story was made famous by the 1955 film starring Marlon Brando, with this production being performed by the Musical Youth Company of Oxford. It is running until April 12, and more information about show times can be found at www.oxfordplayhouse.com.

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St Mary's Church, Streatley onThames
KARL JENKINS THE ARMED MAN, (MILLENNIUM MASS FOR PEACE), AND SCHUBERT'S MASS IN G
by Steventon Choral Society. Tickets £10/£8:50, under 12s free, proceeds to St Mary's Piano fund

5 Apr, 10am - 5pm
Langdale Hall, Witney. OX28 6AB
PSYCHIC & WELLBEING FAYRE
"Over 30 stalls, including Tarot, Angel card readings, Aura Camera, Palmistry, Crystals, Reiki, TuNai massage, Reflexology, Seated massage, Psychic Surgeon, and lots more! All professional readers and therapists. Refreshments available and FREE parking close by. A fun & full day out for everyone.
www.thirdeyeworkshops.com

5 Apr
Templars Square Shopping Centre
FREE BLOOD PRESSURE TESTS
In conjunction with the Stroke Association, the Rotary Clubs of Oxford Isis and Oxford Spires are arranging a day of free blood pressure tests.

7 Apr, 7:15pm
Challow British Legion
PRIZE BINGO
01235 751210

9 Apr - 12 Apr
Oxford Playhouse
GUYS AND DOLLS
by Musical Youth Company of Oxford. Memorable tunes are scattered liberally through the show, including Luck be a Lady and Sit Down You're Rockin' the Boat.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

9 Apr, 7:30pm
The Mad Hatter, Iffley Road, Oxford
THE EPSTEIN, ART THEEFE, TAMARA
£6

11 Apr, 8pm
Wallingford Town Hall
TALK: THE ROMAN ARMY FACT AND FICTION
By Dr John Smith an archaeologist who has studied the Roman Army for over 20 years and excavated and worked at Rockbourne and Bignor Roman Villas. This is a living history presentation, reviewing the historical and archaeological evidence for the Roman Army, in the Empire and South-West England. John will present Roman equipment and artefacts (some from the Camerton Hoard) and discuss their practicality, construction and uses, and debunk some popular and media portrayals of the Roman Army.
Visitors (£3) are most welcome."

13 Apr, 3pm
Henley Town Hall
ALLEN DIGITAL THEATRE ORGAN - JOHN MANN
£7 concessions £6.50
www.henleyorgantrust.org.uk

15 Apr - 16 Apr
Oxford Playhouse
THE RITE OF SPRING & PETRUSHKA
Choreographed by the renowned Michael Keegan-Dolan and performed by an international cast of 14
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

25 April, 8.30pm
Carswell Golf & Country Club
JULIE EDWARDS & KEVIN DEARDEN
www.oxfordlivejazz.com

16 Apr
Art Bar, Oxford
PAUL THOMAS SAUNDERS

16 Apr, 8pm
Zelda's Jazz Room at the Comrades Club, Newbury Street, Wantage
THE JOHN CROCKER / JIM DOUGLAS EXPERIENCE
"John Crocker was the clarinettist with Chris Barber for some 30 years. He is a superb and dynamic player whether on clarinet or tenor sax. He has got together with Jim Douglas who played guitar and banjo with the Alex Welsh band for nearly 20 years. This unusual ""font line"" has proved to be very entertaining and will appear with a rhythm team of Tim Huskisson, piano, Dave Moorwood, guitar and Andy Lawrence, bass. Tickets £10 on the door."
01235 765648 or email dave@dave-moorwood.co.uk

18 Apr - 19 Apr
Oxford Playhouse
FLOWN
Performed by Pirates of the Carabina, a 10 strong company of highly-skilled international circus artists. Prepare for brilliantly choreographed chaos in this big, beautiful and bonkers show.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

19 Apr - 20 Apr
Waterperry Gardens, Nr Wheatley
FRITILLARY WEEKEND
See the county flower of Oxfordshire in all its native splendour as it flowers throughout April in our wildflower meadow and riverside walk. The gardens are open in aid of the National Garden Scheme on Sunday 20th.
www.waterperrygardens.co.uk
01844 339226

22 Apr, 7:30pm
Burton Taylor Studio, Oxford
MATILDA & ME
Ria Hartley's colourful and touching production weaves together story-telling, autobiography, dubpoetry, live art and reggae music, as she reflects on her grandmother's life.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

22 Apr - 26 Apr
Oxford Playhouse
THIS MAY HURT A BIT
Theatre company Out of Joint returns with biting political comedy. Starring Stephanie Cole, this new play explores one family's journey through the digestive system of the NHS.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

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Your name will be entered into the draw and if you win you will be contacted to tell you how to collect your tickets.

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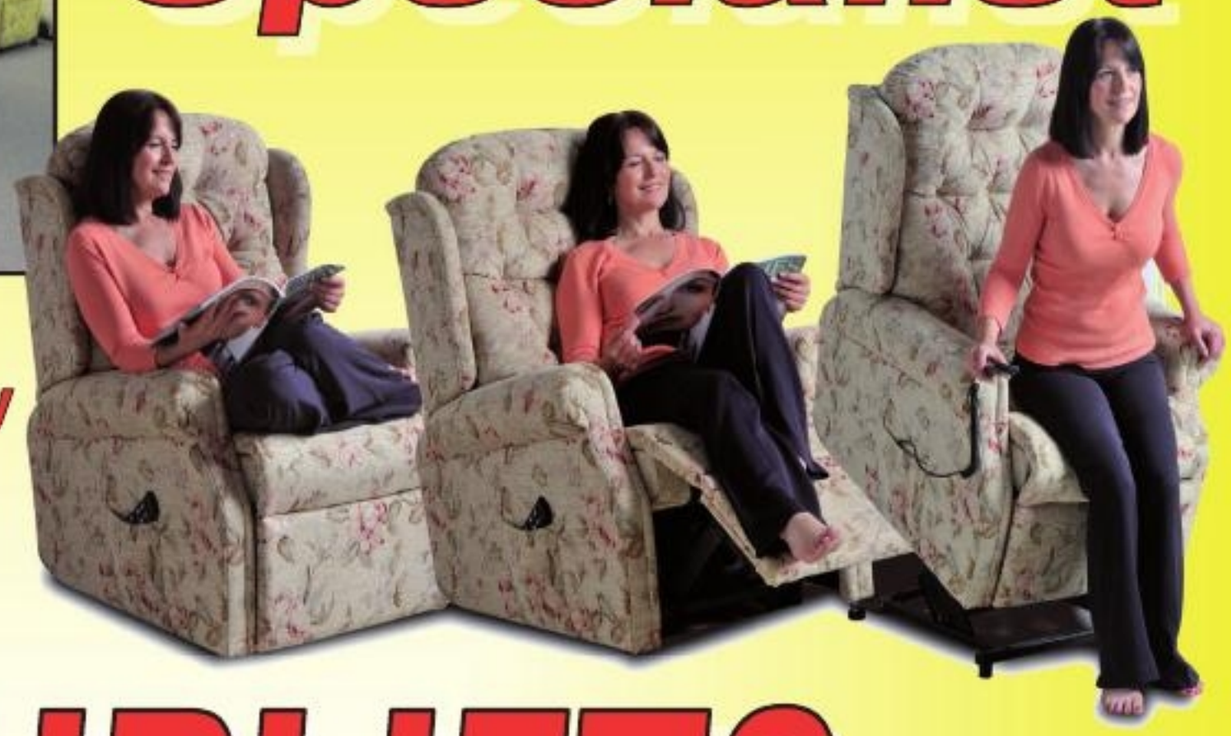

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What's on in OXFORDSHIRE | LISTINGS

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23 Apr, 7:30pm
The Mill Arts Centre, Banbury
MARGARITA AND THE HOUSE OF LOVE
"This is the last chance to see acclaimed band Casa Margarita as they come the end of their Oxfordshire tour: Don't miss their brilliant story concert, bringing you tales and music from an unusual old house in Seville.
Incredible music by de Falla, Granados, Rodrigo and more."
01865244993, http://www.casa-margarita.co.uk/
Fabulous percussion, strings and virtuoso castanets. With stunning mezzo-soprano Margarita. Come and feast your senses! This is a night that will delight your ears and your imagination...and it will touch your heart."
01865244993, www.casa-margarita.co.uk

23 Apr - 24 Apr, 7:30pm
Burton Taylor Studio, Oxford
WILDE WITHOUT THE BOY
Gerard Logan (The Rape of Lucrece) performs a dramatisation of De Profundis, Oscar Wilde's letter to his lover, written from his prison cell.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

23 Apr, 8:30pm
The Lamb Inn, Mill Street, Wantage
DAVE MOORWOOD'S RASCALS OF RHYTHM
"with special guest - fine reedman, John Hallam
With a considerable ""battery"" of reed instruments on stage expect some fine interplay between the players. No admission charge, we depend on the raffle to keep up our flow of superb guest musicians."
01235 765648 or email dave@dave-moorwood.co.uk

24 Apr, 7:30pm
The Art Bar, Oxford
RODDY WOOMBLE + JEN ORD
"Familiar to many thousands of music fans as the frontman in the Scottish rock band Idlewild, Roddy Woomble is also a celebrated solo singer/songwriter.
Roddy will be joined in Oxford by Jen Ord. A lifelong musician with a rich heritage in traditional English music, Jen has built a personal style that has only grown in clarity and potency throughout the years."

25 Apr, 8pm - 9pm
The North Wall, Oxford
WE WILL BE FREE!
"A new play about the true story of the Tolpuddle Martyrs. George and Betsy Loveless were part of the group of Dorset farm labourers who were transported for forming a Trade Union in 1834 to fight against wage cuts inflicted by the local landowner. Their story is told using political cartoon, puppetry, and the musical arrangements of folk singer John Kirkpatrick.
www.thenorthwall.com/01865 319450

25 Apr, 7:30pm
Burton Taylor Studio, Oxford
ANTHROPOETRY
Ben Mellor takes you on a stand up poetry and live music fuelled tour around the body, getting to the measure of modern life through anatomical analogy. Anthropoetry is presented with Ben's trademark mix of poetry, rap, beatbox and humour.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

25 Apr, 8:30pm
Carswell Golf & Country Club
LIVE JAZZ: JULIE EDWARDS & KEVIN DEARDEN
£12
www.oxfordlivejazz.com 01367 718903

26 Apr
Wallingford
WALLINGFORD HISTORY WALKS
around the Castle earthworks in the morning, followed by a Town history walk in the afternoon.
www.twhas.org.uk

26 Apr, 8:20pm - 11pm
The Wheatsheaf High St Oxford
GAPPY TOOTH INDUSTRIES
20.45 Blood Red Stars. 21.30 Montmartre. 22.15 Balloon Ascents
£4.50 on the door, cheaper at www.wegottickets.com/event/259647

26 Apr, 5:55pm
Various local cinemas
THE MET: LIVE IN HD: COSÌ FAN TUTTE
Metopera.org/uk

26 Apr
Wallingford
HISTORIC GUIDED WALKS
"led by Judy Dewey (local historian and Museum curator). At 11am there will be a Castle history walk, followed by a Town history walk at 2.30pm. Both walks, lasting about 2 hours, start at the Museum with a charge of £5 for each walk. [unsuitable for dogs!] "
01491- 651127

26 Apr, 10am - 3pm
North Moreton Village Hall
BOOK SALE
Fiction/non-fiction from 50p. Children's books from 20p. Books of interest to collectors. Refreshments available. Free entry. To donate books call 07787750996. In aid of church & hall funds.
1235812202

26 Apr, 11am & 2pm
Burton Taylor Studio, Oxford
PINOCCHIO
Hiccup Theatre joins forces with acclaimed writer for children Michael Rosen to bring Carlo Collodi's classic tale Pinocchio to life in a sparkling new version."
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

30 Apr - 3 May
Oxford Playhouse
THE HISTORY BOYS
Recently voted the nation's favourite play, Bennett's play combines realism, humour and pathos to question what an education really means.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

2 May, 5pm
Oxford Playhouse
CHARLIE HIGSON
Author, screenwriter and comedian Charlie Higson is joined in conversation with celebrated photographer, Cambridge Jones.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

4 May
New Theatre
LEGENDARY PROG ROCK ICON IAN ANDERSON
"A selection from his new-release concept album - which he defines as 'Folk-Prog-Metal' - in its more theatrical setting, together with a selection of Jethro Tull highlights.
£28 + £32
0844 871 3020

4 May
Orchard Centre Didcot
DIDCOT SUNDAY MARKET: MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY SPECIAL

5 May
The Art Bar, Oxford
RAE MORRIS

6 May - 10 May, 8pm
The North Wall, Oxford
INCOGNITO
Three stories explore the nature of identity and how we are defined by what we remember. Written by Nick Payne, Evening Standard Award for Best Play Constellations. Previous works include: The Same Deep Water As Me (Donmar) and If There Is I Haven't Found It Yet (The Bush).
www.thenorthwall.com/01865 319450

7 May
Cornerstone, Didcot
DIDCOT FILM CLUB: BLACK CAT, WHITE CAT
01235 515 144. www.cornerstone-arts.org

10 May - 31 May, 10am - 5:30pm
Sarah Wiseman Gallery
ARTWEEKS: 3 OXFORDSHIRE ARTISTS
Painting, printmaking & sculpture from Bee Bartlett, Rachel Dossor and Richard Fox as part of Oxfordshire Artweeks Festival
01865 515 123

14 May - 15 Jun, 4am - 7am
City of Oxford College
OPEN EVENT CITY OF OXFORD COLLEGE OPEN DAY
Wednesday 14th May, 4pm- 7pm at the City of Oxford Campus. www.cityofoxford.ac.uk/city-of-Oxford-College-contact-details.
01865 550550 lucy.baker@activatelearning.ac.uk

14 May - 14 May, 4am - 7am
Blackbird leyes Campus
OPEN EVENT
Saturday 21st June, 10am-2pm
www.cityofoxford.ac.uk/city-of-Oxford-College-contact-details
lucy.baker@activatelearning.ac.uk

15 May, 9pm - 11pm
The Jericho
URBAN FOLK QUARTET
Joe Broughton, Paloma Trigás, Tom Chapman and Dan Walsh are The Urban Folk Quartet; Four highly accomplished musicians, a dozen instruments and four voices coming together to craft a knock-out show of globally–influenced, electrifying acoustic music that has been taking the international folk scene by storm.
Hitting the ground running in 2009, The UFQ's trail has blazed across ten countries, igniting audiences worldwide with their high octane, genre-bending take on folk. brings further new direction as founding member Frank Moon steps out of touring life, passing the torch to banjo virtuoso, singer and guitarist Dan Walsh for what is set to be the band's most adventurous year so far.
www.theufq.com" 7813346250

16 May
Cornerstone, Didcot
MARK GRIST, ROGUE TEACHER
Internet sensation, Poet laureate of Peterborough, former English teacher and modern day bard.
01235 515 144

17 May - 18 May, 10am - 5pm
The Yoga Room, Witney OX28 1HY
2 DAY TAROT WORKSHOP
With Andy Ford Psychic Medium, Tutor, Tarot Reader and Palmist.
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www.thirdeyeworkshops.com

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Option One
8 - 18 October 2014
Visiting Boston, Cape Cod, Newport (Rhode Island), the battlefields of Lexington, Salem - the 'Witch Capital of the World', the coast of Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont, (including Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream Factory, Cold Hollow Cider Mill and Morse Farm Maple Sugarworks), Stowe and Lake Champlain (including a cruise on the Spirit of Ethan Allen III).
PRICE INCLUDES:
- Return flight from London Heathrow airport to Boston†
- 4 nights stay at the Best Western Royal Plaza hotel, Marlborough with breakfast
- 2 nights stay at the Ogunquit River Plantation hotel, Maine with breakfast
- 3 nights stay at the Holiday Inn Rutland, Vermont with breakfast

by Air, from £1499pp

†We have included a reasonable budget for your flights. Should the cost of these fall below or rise above this amount we will amend the holiday cost to reflect these changes and therefore the price may increase or decrease accordingly. The final price will be confirmed at the time of booking. The advertised price is correct as of 27/12/13 and is based upon departure from Heathrow airport on 8/10/14.

Option Two
25 September - 5 October 2014 and 9 -19 October 2014
Visiting Cape Cod, the Island of Martha's Vineyard, the Pilgrim town of Plymouth (and the Plimoth Plantation), Boston, the battlefields of Lexington, Salem, Newport (Rhode Island), New Hampshire, Vermont and Stowe.
PRICE INCLUDES:
- Return flight from London Heathrow airport to Boston††
- 3 nights stay at the Resort and Conference Center, Hyannis with breakfast
- 4 nights stay at the Best Western Royal Plaza hotel, Marlborough with breakfast
- 2 nights stay at the Holiday Inn Rutland, Vermont with breakfast

11 days by Air, from £1549pp

††We have included a reasonable budget for your flights. Should the cost of these fall below or rise above this amount we will amend the holiday cost to reflect these changes and therefore the price may increase or decrease accordingly. The final price will be confirmed at the time of booking. The advertised price is correct as of 27/12/13 and is based upon departure from Heathrow airport on 25/9/14.

For more information or to book, please call:
01539 751252 quote OXJ
or visit: **www.oxfordshireguardian.reader.travel**

OPENING TIMES:
MON-FRI 8.30-19.30
SAT 8.45-15.30
SUN 10.00 - 15.00

Organised by Omega Holidays, ABTA V4782, ATOL Protected 6081. Single supplements apply. Subject to availability. †Our prices include your flights for which we have allowed a reasonable budget. However, at your time of booking, should the cost of your flight exceed this budget, we reserve the right to charge a supplement, which we will advise you of at this time.

What's on in OXFORDSHIRE | PUZZLES

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Sudoku

Place a number from 1 to 9 in each empty cell so that each 3x3 block, column, and full row includes each of the numbers from 1 to 9 only once. **EASY/MEDIUM/HARD**

	1		5					8
5		8	4			6		2
		6	1	3	8	7		
8					5		3	
7		3				9		4
	2		7					1
		5	8	9	7	4		
9		4			2	1		6
3					4		7	

	1	9		2		3	4	
6		3				8		7
9			6		3			4
		5				6		
3			1		5			2
7		4				1		5
	9	6		3		7	2	

5					9	1	7	
					5			4
	9			2			5	
					4	7	8	
2								9
	8	3	1					
	2			5			1	
1			6					
	4	6	7					3

Two speed crossword

Quick Clues Across

4 Pleated border (6)
8 Metal cap (7)
9 Risky (6)
10 Gifts (9)
11 Pledge (4)
13 Braid of hair (5)
14 Ill-treated (7)
16 Usefulness (7)
18 Chatter (5)
19 A Roman Emperor (4)
21 Auspicious (9)
22 Attack (6)
23 Unfold (7)
24 Less difficult (6)

Quick Clues Down

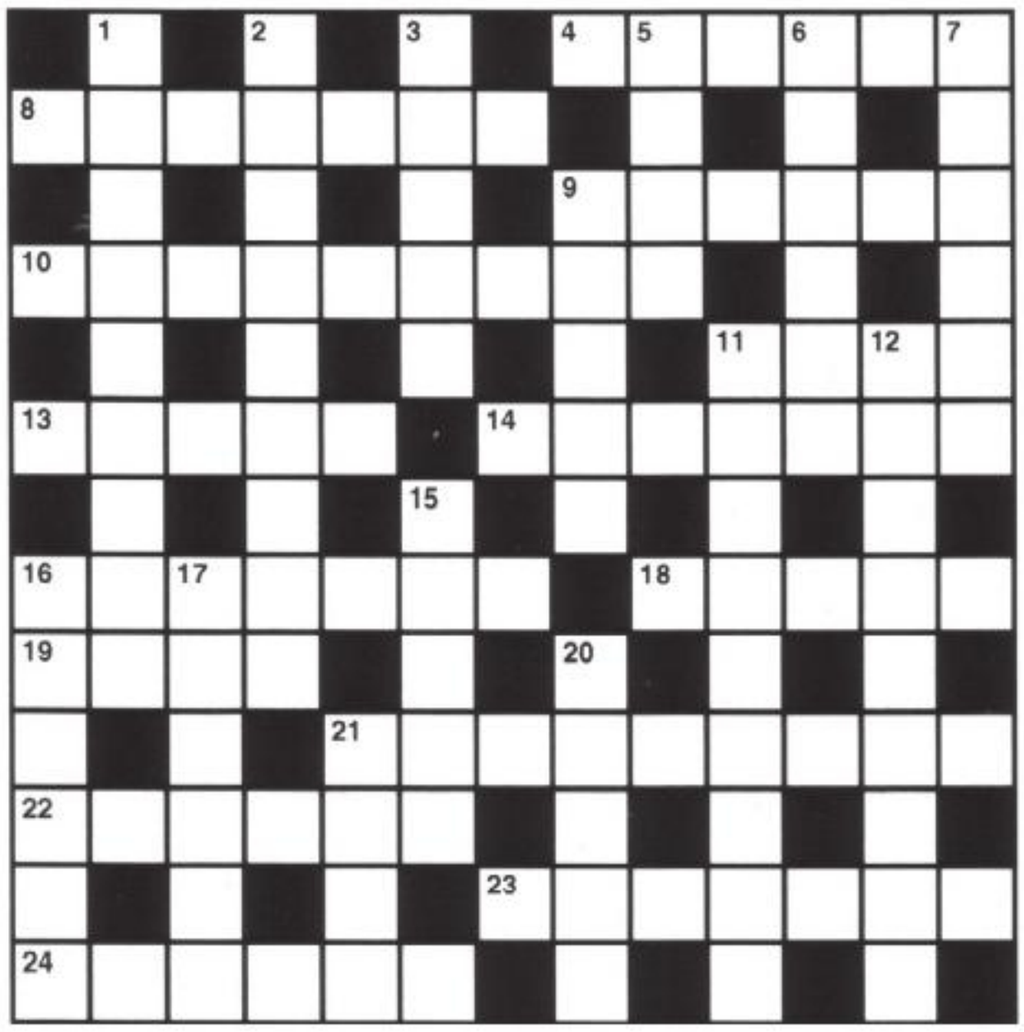
1 Low-necked (9)
2 Well-protected burrowing animal (9)
3 Killed (5)
5 Footed vases (4)
6 Quarrel (6)
7 Smoothed (6)
9 Up to (5)
11 Firearms smuggler (3,6)
12 Period of carrying in womb (9)
15 Backless seat (5)
16 Not constructed (6)
17 Flags (6)
20 War-horse (5)
21 Penalty (4)

Cryptic Clues Across

4 Several frogmen (6)
8 Meeting Constance with diplomacy (7)
9 Reverend gentleman breaks the circle (6)
10 Man with loads of work (9)
11 Gain a point? It's intoxicating (4)
13 Stays for the postscript (5)
14 Father, in tatters, an example to us all (7)
16 Two-by-two in close-up (7)
18 Inscribed in memory, by the sound of it (5)
19 Bird heard to make money (4)
21 Plagued to be leased round the beginning of May (9)
22 Wash all I have on (6)
23 Asleep? Right, before it's about and cancels everything (7)
24 It's nonsense about the lair of the animal (6)

Cryptic Clues Down

1 Later Bill has one alternative (9)
2 Kind of hat to wear on the range? (5-4)
3 Helps out many, but they're sour (5)
5 Out of work but makes a comeback in welding (4)
6 Toupee slipped sideways. What a pest! (6)
7 In this way a range of knowledge can cause weakness (6)
9 Stuff round either end of the eye for the best part (5)
11 Justified when conflict raged (9)
12 Direction not taken either by the railway (9)
15 Soundly attacked wrong-doer (5)
16 Vendor, we hear, might store 11 across (6)
17 Joined in duet (6)
20 Remains of fire for the closing months of the year (5)
21 This urban district won't change (4)



Scribble space

Last week's solutions

4	6	2	1	7	8	3	9	5
9	1	3	5	6	4	7	2	8
5	8	7	3	9	2	1	4	6
3	5	4	7	1	6	9	8	2
2	7	6	9	8	3	5	1	4
1	9	8	2	4	5	6	3	7
8	2	5	6	3	1	4	7	9
7	4	1	8	5	9	2	6	3
6	3	9	4	2	7	8	5	1

9	6	7	4	8	1	2	3	5
4	8	1	2	3	5	9	6	7
2	3	5	9	6	7	4	8	1
5	9	6	7	4	8	1	2	3
1	2	3	5	9	6	7	4	8
7	4	8	1	2	3	5	9	6
8	1	2	3	5	9	6	7	4
3	5	9	6	7	4	8	1	2
6	7	4	8	1	2	3	5	9

7	4	6	9	1	2	8	3	5
2	3	8	7	5	6	4	9	1
5	1	9	8	4	3	2	6	7
8	5	3	2	9	1	6	7	4
6	9	2	5	7	4	1	8	3
4	7	1	6	3	8	5	2	9
1	2	7	4	8	9	3	5	6
3	6	5	1	2	7	9	4	8
9	8	4	3	6	5	7	1	2

Quick Crossword

Across: 1 Fringe 7 Amateur 8 Unclasp 9 Ratio 10 Slenderly 12 Sue 13 Sees 15 Despoil 17 Else 19 Met 21 Triumphal 22 Juror 23 Tonnage 24 Pinnace 25 Zealot

Down: 1 Foursome 2 Inches 3 Grandee 4 Harry 5 Mettle 6 Trio 7 Appropriate 11 Nude 13 Slap 14 Smallest 16 Immense 18 Strong 20 Thrall 21 Trial 22 Jape

Cryptic Crossword

Across: 1 Rebels 7 Isolate 8 Contain 9 Nadir 10 Relenting 12 Ewe 13 Edam 15 Edified 17 Rear 19 Did 21 Partition 22 Moose 27 Noisome 24 Tangent 25 Anonym

Down: 1 Recorder 2 Bangle 3 Learned 4. Going 5 Landed 6 Peer 7 Indifferent 11 Ewer 13 Edit 14 Moonbeam 16 Edition 18 Abound 20 Disown 21 Pekes 22 Mite

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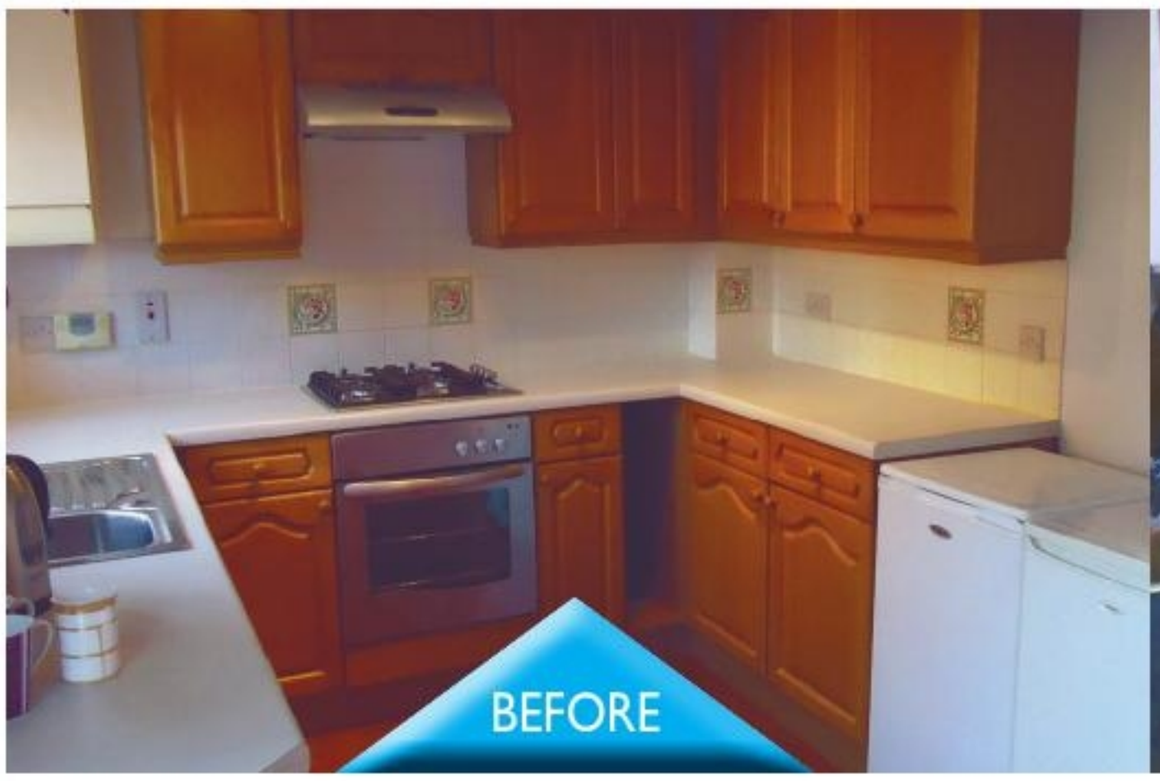

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info@didcotrailwaycentre.org.uk
www.didcotrailwaycentre.org.uk

Easter Family Fundays

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Featuring Didcot's own Chipper the Squirrel (Friday & Monday only)

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Phone or see website for details of Steamdays and other events.
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School's out!

Discover a different world at

The Living Rainforest

"Have an EGGS-tra Special Easter!"

This Easter Holiday learn about the magical world of the Rainforest.

We have free guided tours, wonderful talks
&
children's workshops
all through the holiday!

The Living Rainforest
RG18 0TN

www.livingrainforest.org
Signposted from J13,
M4 Motorway

School's out!

Get down to the Living Rainforest this Easter

HOW do monkeys get down the stairs?
A: They slide down the bananaster!!!

Hey, come on down to the Living Rainforest near Newbury

It's Monkey Madness this Easter School Holidays

Over the holidays there will be "free"* guided tours around the Rainforest looking at some of the amazing adaptations found in our animals, birds & plants – Come and find out how our cheeky monkeys and other animals are especially adapted to life in the rainforest.

There will be keeper led Monkey "feeding time" talks so come and meet our monkeys for an afternoon feed & find out why the Goeldi's monkey is a zoological puzzle.

Also every day there will be also be craft workshops such as;

Monkey mobiles - hang around with us to create a monkey mobile

Gangly gibbons - famous for swinging through the branches with their long arms, make your own gangly gibbon

Monkey masks - disguise yourself as your favourite primate

The Living Rainforest is situated between Reading and Newbury,

So come down this Easter, It's great whatever the weather.

For more details, visit www.livingrainforest.org

**Tours are free with entry however we do have limited spaces available on these ever-popular guided tours.* So put your name down as soon as you arrive

THE ROALD DAHL MUSEUM AND STORY CENTRE

Join us during the Easter holidays for springtime frolics and author visits...

...and at weekends for crackling crafts, storytelling and workshops

See website for full listings. We recommend pre-booking for workshops by calling 01494 892192

HP16 0AL | www.roalddahlmuseum.org

Please note the Museum is closed for essential maintenance from Wednesday 23 April to Tuesday 29 April

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for more information or to sign up call

01865 857007

or visit

www.oxfordmoonlightstroll.org.uk

the **SOBELL HOUSE** *OXFORD*

MOONLIGHT STROLL

registered charity number 1118646

Sobell House Hospice

Title _____ Name _____

Address _____

_____

_____

_____ Postcode _____

Date of Birth _____

(no children aged under 12 allowed. 12-16 year olds must be accompanied by a parent/guardian)

Tel No. _____ Mobile No. _____

Email _____

T-shirt size *(please tick)* ☐S ☐M ☐L ☐XL

How will you pay your £18 registration fee? *(Please tick)*

☐ Cash ☐ Credit Card ☐ Debit Card

☐ Cheque made payable to **Sobell House Hospice Charity Ltd.**

(Please write name of walker/s on the back of the cheque)

Type of card _____

Name on card _____

Card number _____

Security code (last 3 digits on reverse of card) _____

Start date/Issue no. _____ Expiry date _____

Signed _____ Date _____

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How did you hear about the Moonlight Stroll?

☐ Previous Walker ☐ Radio ☐ Newspaper ☐ Internet ☐ Bus stop adverts

If you do not wish to be added to the Sobell House Hospice Charity / Oxford Moonlight Stroll database, tick here ☐

Complete this application form and return it to: Sobell House Hospice Charity, Churchill Hospital, Headington, Oxford OX3 7LJ

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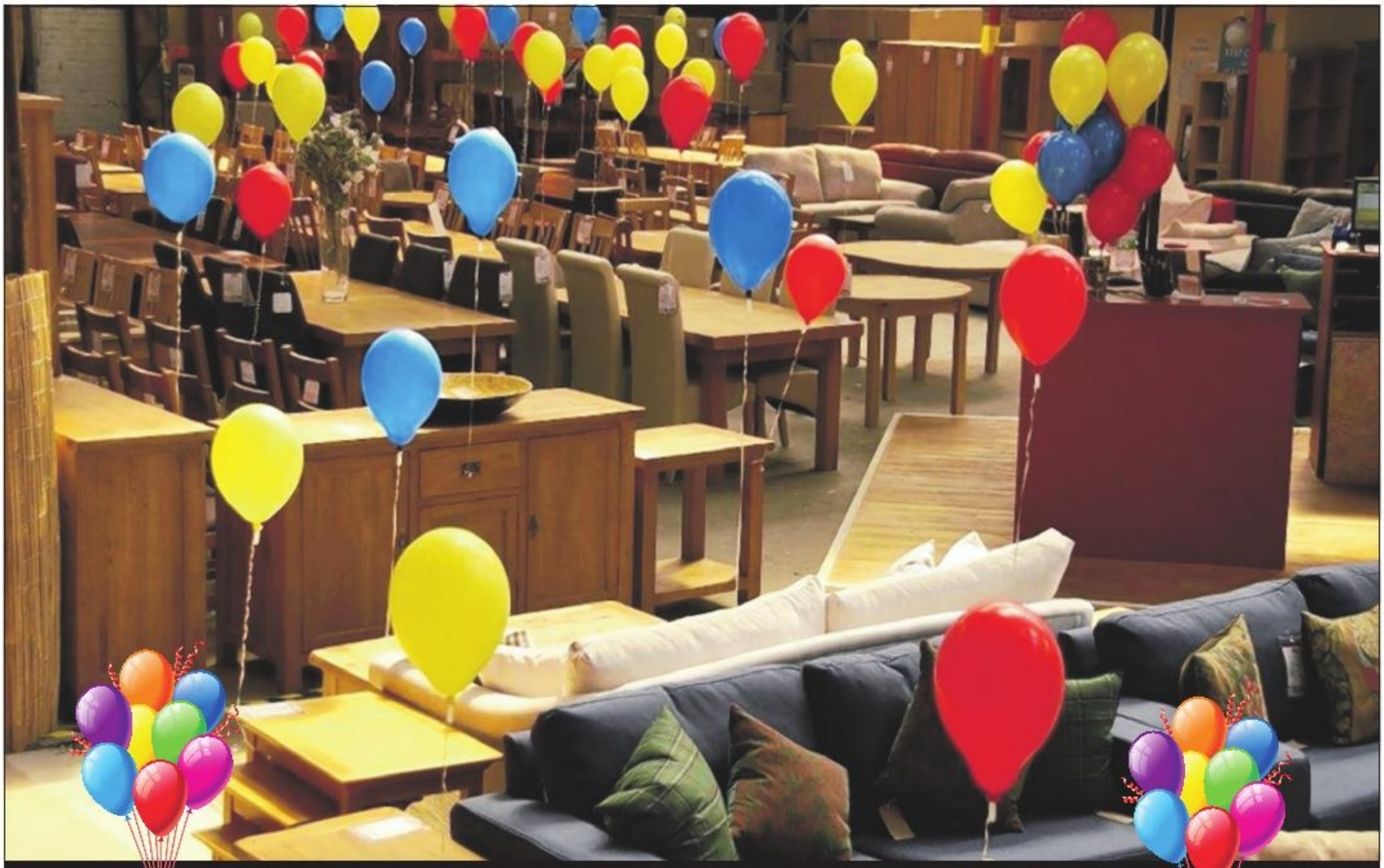

MUST END THIS WEEKEND

THE BALLOONS ARE BACK AND SO ARE THE SAVINGS!

At our Balloon Bonanza we want YOU to make us an offer on any furniture with a balloon attached to it.

DOORS OPEN 10am

You name your price and no reasonable offer will be refused!
This is too good to miss, BIG savings on furniture from the high street stores - THIS WEEKEND ONLY!
Make sure you stop by and bid on a balloon, you just never know what you will find.
It's good for you and good for us and definitely worth a look.

DEFINITELY WORTH A LOOK!

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order two steaks and get a bottle of house wine free

WEDNESDAY SENIORS LUNCH
2 course meal for £8.00
WEDNESDAY NIGHT
pie mash & peas plus free dessert

THURSDAY CURRY NIGHT
Free pint of bitter or lager with every curry

FRIDAY FISH AND CHIPS
£5.00 eat in or take away
FRIDAY NIGHT come buy a raffle ticket and join in our meat hamper raffle, draw takes place at 10.30pm.
Tickets available throughout the week

Take away food available please ask

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY
SATURDAY 5TH APRIL
Mike Maddins live music

MENU

STARTERS

Homemade soup served with roll & butter £4.50
Prawn Cocktail with brown bread & butter £5.25
Tomato & Mozzarella stack £4.95
Garlic mushrooms cooked in a white wine & cream sauce £4.95
Pate served with toast £4.75
Whitebait served with brown bread & butter £4.95

MAIN COURSES

10oz rump Steak £11.95
10 oz Sirloin Steak £14.95
All served with flat mushrooms, tomato, watercress & chips
Sauces: Pepper/Mushroom/Diane £2.00
Mixed grill includes lamb chop, steak sausage, gammon, black pudding and egg £18.90
Pork steaks served with sage & apple gravy £10.50
Gammon steak & eggs or pineapple £10.50
Cajun chicken chips & salad £9.50
Lamb shank with mashed potato & vegetables £11.50
Sausage & mash with onion gravy £9.95
Scampi chips & peas £8.95
Battered fish chips & peas £10.95
Ham, eggs & chips £8.95
Homemade beefburger £9.50
Chicken burger £9.25
All served in a bun with tomato, lettuce, mayo & chips
Mega Burger with bacon, cheese, onion rings & chips £11.95
Homemade pies - choose from:
Cottage pie served with vegetables of the day £9.25
Steak & ale pie £9.25
Chicken pie £9.25
All main meals can be served with your choice of vegetables or salad & potato : mash, new, jacket or chips unless stated
Chicken or lamb curry £9.25
Chilli con carne served with rice or chips £9.25
All day breakfast with bacon, sausage, tomato, black pudding, baked beans, eggs & ships £8.50

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What's on in OXFORDSHIRE | COMPS

To enter this competition

Just send your answer along with your name, address and telephone number to competitions@oxfordshireguardian.co.uk

Or on a postcard to Competitions, Oxfordshire Guardian, Newspaper House, 4A Hawksworth, Didcot, Oxfordshire OX11 7HR

WIN tickets to see London Welsh play!

Closing date:
Wednesday, April 9, 2014

MAY 30, 2012 is a day that will long in the memory and history of London Welsh RFC, as amidst joyous scenes at Oxford's Kassam Stadium the Exiles were crowned Championship winners.

It ushered forth a glorious Aviva Premiership season which saw the likes of Leicester Tigers, Harlequins, Bath and Northampton Saints visit the Kassam, and those days could be set to return.

Two years on, hopes are for another euphoric evening to rival that of 2012, and with it the return of top flight rugby to Oxfordshire.

Championship play-off place now secure, just three games remain in the regular season, beginning with the visit of Jersey to the Kassam Stadium on April 12 (KO 2pm), for London Welsh head coach Justin Burnell to hone his side, before things start to get really serious in the semi-finals. It promises to be tense and exciting.

And you can play your part. Help bring top flight rugby back to Oxfordshire – roar the Dragons back to the Premiership!

WIN TICKETS!

To be in with a chance to win a pair of tickets to this sensational fixture just answer the simple question below:

Q: Who is the head coach of London Welsh?

LONDON WELSH
CYMRY LLUNDAIN

To enter more competitions like this, go online to www.oxfordshireguardian.co.uk

For full terms & conditions go to www.oxfordshireguardian.co.uk/about-us

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or visit: **www.oxfordshireguardian.reader.travel**

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A few hints on vehicle maintenance as we head towards summer

Keep your car looking great

ROAD safety charity the IAM (Institute of Advanced Motorists) is offering weekly motoring tips to drivers from Britain's top advanced driver, Peter Rodger.

By **Andy Allans**

This week we advise drivers on how to prime their cars properly for the warmer weather.

The IAM recommends seven ways to prepare your car:

• Now is a good time to give your car a spring clean. Salt is corrosive and will cause rusting if left on the bodywork. If possible take your car to a car wash that specialises in under-car cleaning to get rid of every trace.

• The UK pollen season can be pretty miserable for hayfever sufferers, so replacing your car's pollen filter annually is a vital investment. Keeping your air-conditioning well maintained will help as well.

• Servicing your air-con will also help your car smell better. If it smells stale when you turn the heating on, it could well be a sign that mould is building up in your condenser.

• Flies will soon be out in force so be sure to refill your washer fluid. Habitually washing the windscreen and headlamps when you stop for fuel is also important as windscreen wipers won't get rid of all the fly debris.

• Old wiper blades are not only noisy, they can leave marks on the windscreen, so remember to replace them regularly. Clean them regularly to avoid damaging your windscreen.

• After a pot-holed winter, check your wheel and tyre alignment. Misaligned tyres wear out more quickly.

• Anti-freeze contains corrosion inhibitors so you should keep your car topped up all year round - going without could lead to expensive engine damage.

Mr Rodger said: "After a long winter of wear and tear from snow, salt and potholes, your car needs attention.

"Preparing for the spring and making checks now can save you a lot of money in the long run."

• *Wheel alignment (inset) is just one of the ways to take care of your car*

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12	Mazda2 1.3 5dr TS Air Con, Aluminum, Manual, 13,920 miles	£7,700
11	Mazda2 1.3 5dr Tamura, Metropolitan Grey, Manual, 26,232 miles	£8,000
11	Mazda2 1.3 5dr Tamura, Aquatic Blue, Manual, 11,500 miles	£8,000
12	Mazda2 1.3 5dr Tamura, True Red, Manual, 19,959 miles	£8,500
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13	Mazda6 Sport D 175, NAV, Meteor Grey, Manual, 6,000 miles	£20,000
13	Mazda6 Sport Nav 150, Diesel, Black, Manual, 10,255 miles	£21,000
13	Mazda6 Sport D 175, NAV, Stormy Blue, Automatic, 1,415 miles	£21,500
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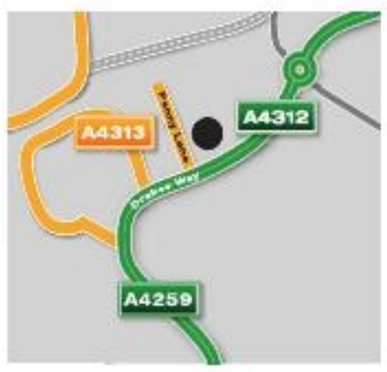

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£11,295

10 60 MONDEO ZETEC 2.0TDCI 140PS DIESEL 5DR, panther black/grey, 6 spd, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, climate control, front fogs, alloys, 7 airbags, Blue tooth, cruise control, ESP, ABS, one owner from new service history, very low mileage 11,300 miles

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£4,595

02 52 MINI 1600 PETROL COOPER S, yellow & black, leather interior, e/w, c/l, r/CD, PAS, climate control, front fogs, alloys, e/m, 4 airbags, ABS, rear park sensors, 69,796 miles

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09 09 FOCUS 1.6 PETROL TITANIUM AUTO, 5dr, moondust silver/grey, e/w&m, cruise control, auto lights & wipers., c/l, alloys, DAB radio/CD, climate, HFS, 6

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13 63 FOCUS 1.0 ECOBOOST 100PS PETROL 5DR, deep impact blue/grey, e/w&m, c/l, DAB radio/CD, Blue tooth, a/c, privacy glass, 17" alloys, rear reversing sensors, HFS, front fogs, ABS, ESP, one local owner, 2 years and 6 months manufacturer's warranty, 4,000 miles..... **£13,295**

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KA

11 11 KA ZETEC 1.2 PETROL, 3dr, scuba blue met/grey, 5 spd, PAS, a/c, HFS, r/CD, e/w&m, 2 airbags, ABS, c/l, front fogs, alloys, one owner from new, FSH, RFL only £30 per year, 17,179 miles **£6,995**

10 10 KA DIGITAL 1.2 PETROL, 3 dr, midnight black & yellow/grey, 5 spd, r/CD, a/c, c/l, HFS, e/w&m, ABS, 2 airbags, 2 owners from new, service history, £30RFL, 30,183 miles..... **£6,595**

11 11 KA EDGE 1.2 PETROL, 3dr, midnight black/grey, 5spd, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, PAS, 2 airbags, a/c, £30 RFL per year, one owner from new, 31,213 miles..... **£6,295**

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11 11 FIESTA 1.25 PETROL ZETEC 82PS, 5dr, midnight sky met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, front fogs, PAS, 5 airbags, 5 spd, a/c, HFS, alloys, ABS, ESP, one owner from new, very low mileage 8,000 miles, DUE IN SOON..... **£9,295**

11 60 FIESTA 1.25 PETROL ZETEC 82PS, 5dr, ink blue met/grey, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, front fogs, 5 airbags, aircon, HFS, alloys, ABS, ESP, one owner from new, FSH, 35,948 miles..... **£8,595**

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10 60 FUSION 1.4 PETROL ZETEC, 5dr, moondust silver met/grey, 5 spd, e/w&m, c/l, front fogs, r/CD, 2 airbags, PAS, HFS, alloys, ABS, a/c, rear park sensors, one owner, low mileage for year, FSH, 19,300 miles **£7,795**

11 60 FUSION ZETEC 1.4 PETROL, 5dr, sea grey met/grey, 5 spd, e/w&m, c/l, front fogs, r/CD, 2 airbags, PAS, HFS, alloys, ABS, a/c, rear park sensors, 1 owner, low mileage for year 13,400, FSH **£7,895**

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10 60 MONDEO ZETEC 2.0TDCI 140PS DIESEL 5DR, panther black/grey, 6 spd, e/w&m, c/l, r/CD, climate control, front fogs, alloys, 7 airbags, Blue tooth, cruise control, ESP, ABS, one owner from new service history, very low mileage 11,300 miles **£11,295**

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KUGA

11 11 KUGA TITANIUM 4X4 2.0 TDCI 163PS POWERSHIFT 6 SPD AUTO, electric white, airfield part leather, convenience pack, titanium X pack, titanium appearance pack, Sony DAB radio CD, Blue tooth & USB, c/l, PAS, heated windscreen, panoramic roof, climate, 6 airbags, cruise control, one owner from new, FSH, 33,383 miles ..... **£17,995 NOW £15,995**

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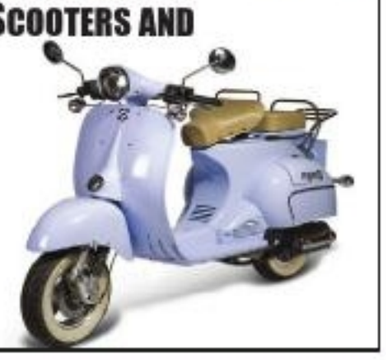

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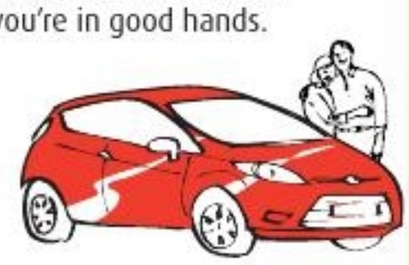

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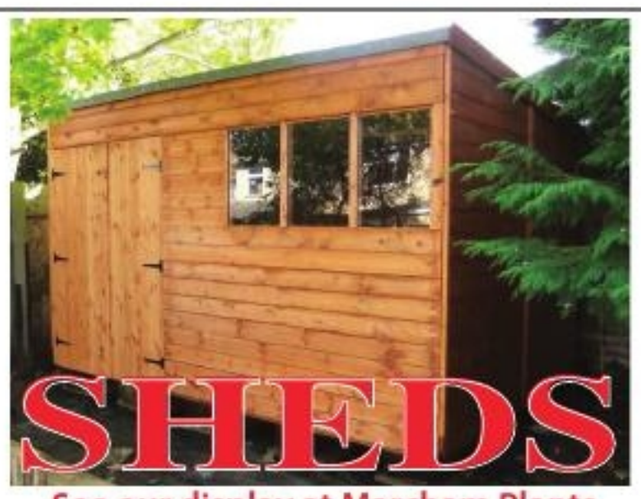

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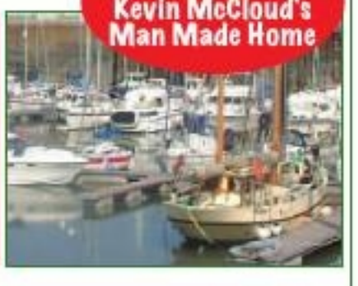

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Boss urges unity after freak Dagenham loss

GARY Waddock is urging Oxford United to stick together after his side suffered the cruellest of defeats at Dagenham & Redbridge last weekend.

With only a minute to go, Luke Howell's blocked effort ricocheted off Matt Bevans and looped over Ryan Clarke.

The 1-0 defeat at Victoria Road sees Waddock still searching for his first points since becoming United's head coach just under a fortnight ago.

Meanwhile, United's place in Sky Bet League Two's play-offs is looking precarious as they slipped to seventh following last weekend's loss.

With fourth-placed Fleetwood Town visiting the Kassam Stadium this weekend, Waddock is fully aware of the importance of Saturday's match.

By Jack Johnson
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

"It's got to turn fairly soon because this can't continue," Waddock told the club.

"We have got to draw a line under it and move on, the sooner the better."

He added: "Everyone is giving everything.

"The support we had was fantastic and they were right behind the team.

"They are as frustrated as all of us and we all want to put it right and the only way we can do that is by sticking together.

"I felt for everybody and it was cruel the way we went down to a defeat but we will dust ourselves down and go again."

United only took four points from seven games last month, scoring just three goals.

Despite last weekend's defeat, Waddock felt there were positives to take from the performance.

"We had some good moments in the game," he said.

"We created two or three good chances and it was an improvement on Monday night's performance (the defeat to Southend) but it can be cruel sometimes this game.

"There was improvement in certain areas but the goal is comical and it is very hard to take."

• *Matt Bevans' own goal saw Oxford United go down to a 1-0 defeat at Dagenham & Redbridge (Picture by Steve Daniels)*

Tom and Viv the heroes as City grab valuable win

TOM Winters and Viv Solomon-Otabor fired Oxford City to a 2-0 win over Gloucester City on Tuesday evening.

Mike Ford's men are now two points from safety in the Skrill North.

However, 19th-placed Histon and 20th-placed Stalybridge Celtic have games in hand.

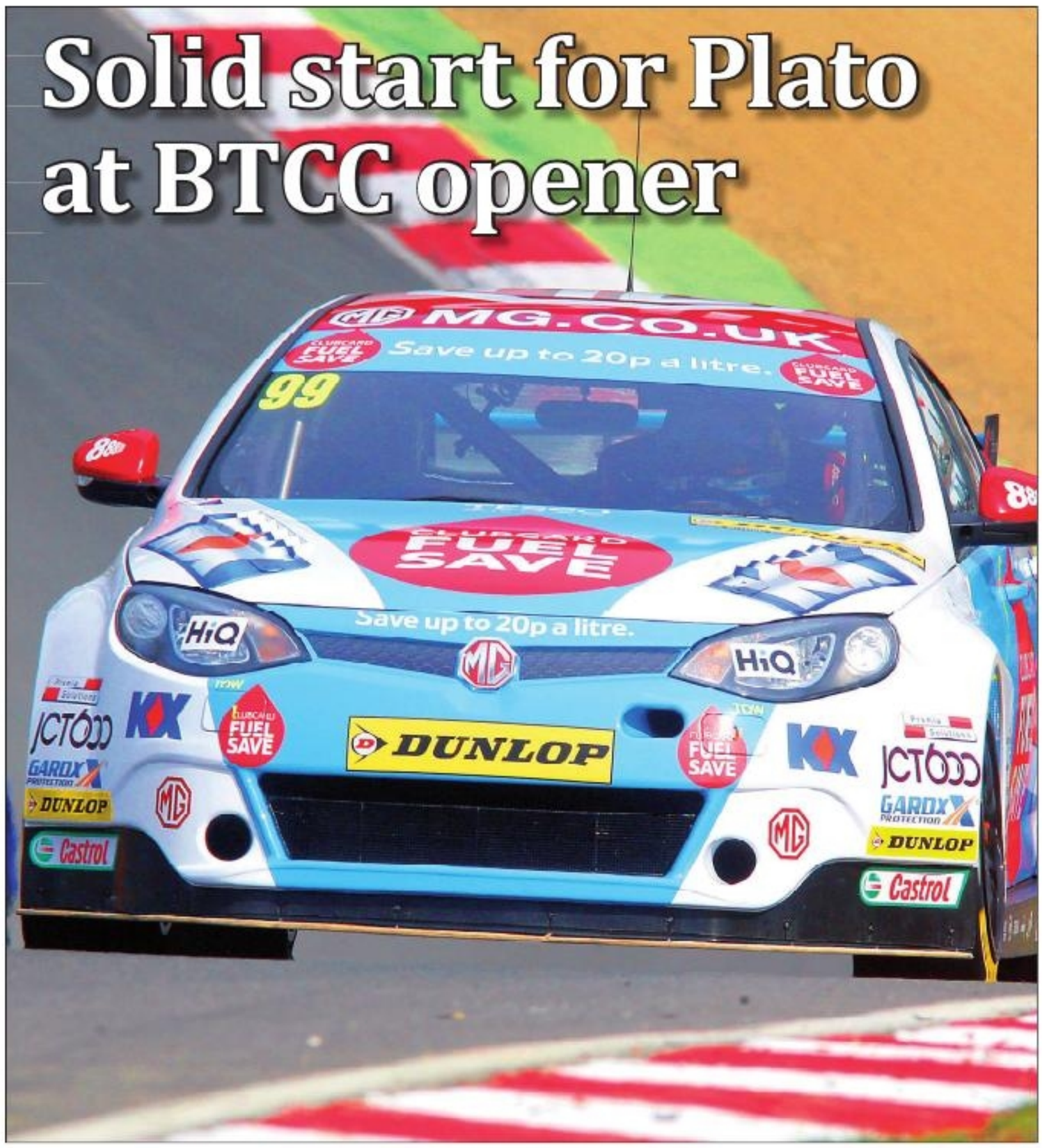
City's win over Gloucester on Tuesday was only their second victory away from Marsh Lane this season.

It sparks an upturn in form for City who have taken seven points from their last five league matches.

Ford will be hoping his side can record back-to-back wins for only the second time this season when they face Gainsborough Trinity this evening.

• *Tom Winters (Picture by Mike Allen)*

Solid start for Plato at BTCC opener



TWO podiums got Jason Plato's championship challenge off to a solid start during the first round of the British Touring Car Championship at Brands Hatch last Sunday.

The Oxford-born racer missed out on pole position by 0.012 of a second, and followed reigning champion Andrew Jordan home in second place in the first race.

But there were problems in race two, as a software glitch off the line dropped Plato to the back, although he eventually recovered to finish 11th.

And Plato was able to continue his fightback in race three, finishing third after overtaking Rob Collard in the closing laps to end the day on the podium.

"I've had quite a few of those sort of races in my career coming from the pack, it's brilliant fun," said Plato.

"We just need to understand why we keep having some gremlins in the system.

"But my tail is in the air after that result.

"We've turned it around and we're motivated now we've had our first podium finish on the soft tyre."

Plato is fifth in the championship standings after the first three races with 38 points, nine behind Jordan. The next race is at Donington Park on April 20.

• *Jason Plato (Picture courtesy of btcc.net)*

Sport Bites

Henley joy

HENLEY Hawks RFC returned to winning ways last Saturday, as they beat Worthing Raiders 21-16 to move to 13th in the SSE National League 1.

But there was disappointment for Chinnor, who lost 47-31 to London Irish WG in their SSE National League 2 South encounter.

Elsewhere, Oxford Harlequins won the South West 1 East title last weekend with a 52-8 win over Maidenhead, while Grove beat Reading and Witney lost to Windsor.

Champions

OXFORD City Stars were crowned National Ice Hockey League 2 South Cup champions last Sunday night, after a 3-1 win over Bristol Pitbulls.

Goals from Alan Green, James Pentecost and Darren Elliott gave Stars the lead, and despite the Pitbulls pushing forward in the final moments Stars were able to hang on.

Their attention now turns to a crucial game with Slough Jets on Sunday, which could decide the outcome of the league.

Hawks win

OXFORD Hawks shocked the South Hockey Premier division leaders Chichester last Saturday, beating the newly-promoted club 3-2.

But Oxford University couldn't follow their 3-0 win of last week, losing 2-1 to Staines at the weekend.

University ended the season fourth in the standings with 40 points, while Hawks were eighth on 27.

More points for Williams

WILLIAMS Martini Racing added to their points total at last Sunday's Malaysian Grand Prix, as Felipe Massa and Valtteri Bottas came home seventh and eighth.

The pair had been closing on Jenson Button in the closing laps, when the team ordered Massa to move over and let Bottas try to overtake the McLaren.

But Massa refused, with the three drivers finishing in the same order and Williams collecting 10 points from the weekend. Massa said: "I don't think this track particularly suited our car, so we have done well to finish where we have."

Elsewhere, Lotus and Caterham achieved their first finishes of the season as Romain Grosjean came 11th, Kamui Kobayashi 13th and Marcus Ericsson 14th.

Max Chilton was able to get his Marussia to the flag in 15th, while his team-mate Jules Bianchi retired after eight laps with a brake problem. Williams remain fourth in the constructors' championship with 20 points, while Lotus, Caterham and Marussia are yet to score.

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More Sport inside: Motorsport: Solid start for Plato at BTCC opener | Hockey: Champions

DIDDY'S FOURTH WIN ON THE SPIN

Joint bosses targeting top-half finish after impressive run of form

By Jack Johnson
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

IAN Concannon and Jamie Heapy have set their sights on a top-half finish after Didcot Town secured their Southern League status with a 2-1 win over Fleet Town on Tuesday evening.

Josh Dutton-Black and John Mills both scored in the first half to seal the three points and a fourth successive win for the Railwaymen.

Diddy are now 13th in Division One South & West with 47 points, 21 of those coming in the last 10 games.

Concannon said he and Heapy are delighted to, first and foremost, keep Didcot in the Southern League.

"We had to make sure that Didcot are a Southern League club next season. Relegation isn't an option, so we're pleased that we've done that," he said.

"That's the first main thing we've achieved and now we want to finish in the top half of the table.

"Credit goes to the players because they deserve all the plaudits.

"They have got us out of the mess that we inherited, so that's pleasing."

Didcot travel to Paulton Rovers this Saturday where they have the opportunity to record a fifth-straight victory.

The Railwaymen have won seven of their last 10 games, a run that includes last Saturday's 3-2 win over second-placed Cirencester Town.

However, Didcot will have to push for a top-half finish without striker Pablo Haysham, who was sent off for a fourth time this season when he was dismissed against Fleet on Tuesday.

Haysham will be available for this Saturday but, will miss the last three games of the campaign and the first fixture of next season.

"I've had a brief chat with Pablo," said Concannon.

"He is a bit down but it is something that could have been avoided.

"He knows our feelings on it."

Meanwhile, Concannon was full of praise for winger Dutton-Black, who has impressed since returning to the club for a second spell.

"Josh, since he's come back, has been excellent," Concannon added.

Fleet Town	**1**
Didcot Town	**2**

• *Joint manager Jamie Heapy clears the ball during last Saturday's win over Cirencester (Picture by Roger Neal)*

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